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# HOMER

ILIAD

BOOKS 1-12

WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY

A. T. MURRAY

REVISED BY

WILLIAM F. WYATT



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## PREFACE

A. T. Murray's translation of the *Iliad* has long set a standard for accuracy and style. But its archaic language no longer seems as appropriate as it did to earlier generations of readers. In revising it to fit the expectations of today's readers I have changed little substantively, but have modernized the diction throughout. I accepted the task and challenge both because of my love of Homer and out of familial piety, for Murray was my great uncle, my grandmother's brother.

I thank Zeph Stewart and George Goold for selecting me to undertake this task and for other help and advice; and Philippa Goold for reading through my translation, making useful suggestions for improvement, and saving me from occasional error. I hope that my revision of Murray, like his original, will Nestor-like serve through two generations and into a third.

W. F. W.



## INTRODUCTION

There was a rich tradition of epic poetry in early Greece. We know of epics dealing with legends of the royal house of Thebes, with the voyage of the Argo, with the deeds of Heracles and of Theseus, with the events surrounding the Greek expedition against Troy, and with many other myths and legends of the Heroic Age. Apart from brief quotations and later paraphrases or allusions all but two of them have perished. The two that have survived, the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, were from earliest times attributed to the same poet, Homer, and appear to have been valued above all others for their quality and authority. Both dealt with the Trojan War, the *Iliad* centering on an incident in the final year of the Greek siege of Troy, the *Odyssey* recounting the long return home of one of the commanders after the victory.

Even in antiquity a few thought, as many do today, that the *Odyssey* was not composed by the same poet as the *Iliad*, but no one doubted that each was the work of a single poet. An era of scepticism, however, began at the end of the eighteenth century. Following the suggestions of F. A. Wolf and others, scholars argued that both epics had been woven or patched together from shorter poems composed at different times by various poets. This view, which dominated most critical discussion for more than a century,

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seemed to explain the inconsistencies and repetitions found in the epics and to confront the fact that writing was not known in the Dark Ages. There was speculation about the very existence of Homer and what contribution a bard of that name might have made to the epics in their present form. These problems came to be known as "the Homeric question." In antiquity the term *chorizontes*, "separators," was given to those who ascribed the two epics each to a different poet; now it could be applied to those who believed that for each epic there was multiple authorship and not a single unifying origin.

A revolutionary change of view followed upon the investigations of Milman Parry, who in the 1920s and 1930s showed that the method of composition of the epics resembled the practice of illiterate bards. They should therefore not be judged by the criteria of written literature. So it is possible again, and now with more sophisticated theoretical and comparative evidence, to visualize a single bard as the author of a whole epic. Whether the same poet produced the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* remains a disputed question. Separate authorship for the *Odyssey* has by no means been proved, however, and until it is we would do well to follow the practice of the centuries and think of a single poet named Homer as the author of both epics.

Study of the narrative poetry of illiterate cultures has made it clear that the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, traditionally 15,693 and 12,110 lines long respectively, are examples of "oral poetry." Professional singers like Phemius and Demodocus in the *Odyssey* learn by listening to their predecessors' performances a version of their own native language which obeys not only that language's grammatical rules, but also the metrical or other formal rules of the

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poetic medium. In this poetic language the singer can think, and while doing so produce consistently metrical utterance. The oft-repeated metrical phrases or "formulas," each designed to dovetail with the next, aided the poet in his composition.

At *Iliad* 2.484-93 Homer names the source both of the singer's poetic language and of its content:

Tell me now, you Muses, who have dwellings on Olympus—for you are goddesses, and are present, and know all things, but we hear only a rumor and know nothing—who were the leaders and lords of the Danaans. But the multitude I could not tell or name, not even if ten tongues were mine and ten mouths and a voice unwearying, and the heart within me were of bronze, unless the Muses of Olympus, daughters of Zeus who bears the aegis, call to my mind all those who came beneath Ilios. Now will I tell the leaders of the ships and all the ships.

From these words we can conclude that whatever occurs to the singer's mind and sensibility in the muses' metrical language as he begins his song is for him the guaranteed truth of divine eyewitnesses. This "Catalogue of Ships," which from our point of view we can explain only as a feat of memorization of traditional material, is ostensibly for the poet and his audience the voice of Truth itself.

Since he thought of himself as the mouthpiece of Truth, it would not be surprising if the poet sought and found in his consultation of the muse or muses larger unities than could be communicated in an evening's performance. Hence the many thousands of lines of the *Iliad* and

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of the *Odyssey*, entailing also the eventual division of the poems into 24 "books," each identified by a letter of the Greek alphabet.

Mention of the Greek alphabet brings us at once to Homer's first manuscripts. His orally composed words, in order to survive, had immediately to be subjected to the writing process, whether by autograph or dictation. The possibility that Homer's poetry was orally transmitted from bard to bard until it was finally written down seems excluded by the fact that oral poets never repeat themselves at any length word for word, whatever they may claim to the contrary.<sup>1</sup> If by "Homer" we mean the author of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, Homer himself produced the first texts of the poems we read today.

The weight of scholarly opinion now places the composition of the poems in the mid-eighth century B.C., the *Iliad* a little earlier than the *Odyssey*. The sixth-century Homeric Hymn to Delian Apollo and the scholiast on Pindar *Nemean*s 2.1 on the Homeridae provide attractive evidence that Homer founded a clan or guild on the island of Chios which possessed written texts and continued to foster their honored ancestor's reputation after his death. To the degree that we accept this we can think of Homer as the eighth-century B.C. Ionian Greek who first brought literacy to Greece and, in a sense, to the world.

The oldest complete manuscripts of the *Iliad* are of the tenth century, and they provide a remarkably stable and consistent text. The earliest surviving papyri (3rd century

<sup>1</sup> Adam Parry, ed., *The Making of Homeric Verse: The Collected Papers of Milman Parry*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1971, p. 336.

## INTRODUCTION

B.C.) and quotations of Homer in classical authors show, however, that at an earlier stage there were many differences from the text we now possess. The standardization was undoubtedly due to the labors of scholars at the library of Alexandria in the third and second centuries B.C., especially of the prominent heads, Zenodotus, Aristophanes of Byzantium, and Aristarchus, who compared different versions and commented on the text. Many of their observations are preserved in the scholia, the annotations which appear in the margins of some manuscripts, including their questioning of lines and passages for linguistic, factual, or ethical reasons. There are suggestions also of a much earlier attempt to collect and standardize the Homeric epics for recitation at Athens at the time of Pisistratus in the sixth century B.C. Study and interpretation of the poems continued throughout antiquity and is often reflected in the scholia.

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BOOKS 1-12

## Α

- Μῆνιν ἄειδε, θεά, Πηληιάδεω Ἀχιλῆος<sup>1</sup>  
οὐλομένην, ἣ μυρὶ Ἀχαιοῖς ἄλγε' ἔθηκε,  
πολλὰς δ' ἰφθίμους ψυχὰς Ἀἴδι προΐαψεν  
ἡρώων, αὐτοὺς δὲ ἐλώρια τεῦχε κύνεσσιν<sup>2</sup>  
5 οἰωνοῖσί τε πᾶσι,<sup>3</sup> Διὸς δ' ἐτελείετο βουλή,  
ἐξ οὗ δὴ τὰ πρῶτα διαστήτην ἐρίσαντε  
Ἀτρεΐδης τε ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν καὶ δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς.
- Τίς τ' ἄρ σφωε θεῶν ἔριδι ξυνέηκε μάχεσθαι;  
Δητοῦς καὶ Διὸς υἱός· ὁ γὰρ βασιλῆι χολωθείς  
10 νοῦσον ἀνὰ στρατὸν ὦρσε κακὴν, ὀλέκοντο δὲ λαοί,  
οὔνεκα τὸν Χρῦσην ἠτίμασεν ἀρητῆρα  
Ἀτρεΐδης· ὁ γὰρ ἦλθε θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
λυσόμενός τε θύγατρα φέρων τ' ἀπερείσι' ἄποινα,  
στέμματ' ἔχων ἐν χερσὶν ἐκηβόλου Ἀπόλλωνος  
15 χρυσέῳ ἀνὰ σκῆπτρῳ, καὶ λίσσετο πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
Ἀτρεΐδα δὲ μάλιστα δύω, κοσμήτορε λαῶν·  
“Ἀτρεΐδαι τε καὶ ἄλλοι ἐυκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοί,

<sup>1</sup> In the edition of Apellicon the opening line of the poem was given in the form Μούσας αείδω καὶ Ἀπόλλωνα κλυτότοξον, and in the place of lines 1–9 some ancient texts gave,  
“Ἔσπετε νῦν μοι, Μοῦσαι, Ὀλύμπια δώματ' ἔχουσαι,

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The wrath sing, goddess, of Peleus' son Achilles, the accursed wrath which brought countless sorrows upon the Achaeans, and sent down to Hades many valiant souls of warriors, and made the men themselves to be the spoil for dogs and birds of every kind; and thus the will of Zeus was brought to fulfillment. Of this sing from the time when first there parted in strife Atreus' son, lord of men, and noble Achilles.

Who then of the gods was it that brought these two together to contend? The son of Leto and Zeus; for he, angered at the king, roused throughout the army an evil pestilence, and the men were perishing, because to Chryses his priest the son of Atreus had done dishonor. For he had come to the swift ships of the Achaeans to free his daughter and he brought with him ransom past counting; and in his hands he held the ribbons of Apollo, who strikes from afar, on a staff of gold, and he implored all the Achaeans, but most of all the two sons of Atreus, the marshalers of armies: "Sons of Atreus, and you other well-

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ὅππως δὴ μῆνις τε χόλος θ' ἔλε Πηλεΐωνα,  
Λητοῦς τ' ἀγλαὸν υἷόν· ὁ γὰρ βασιλῆι χολωθεὶς

<sup>2</sup> Lines 4 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>3</sup> πᾶσι: δαῖτα Zenodotus.

ὑμῖν μὲν θεοὶ δοῖεν Ὀλύμπια δώματ' ἔχοντες  
 ἐκπέρσαι Πριάμοιο πόλιν, ἐν δ' οἴκαδ' ἰκέσθαι·  
 20 παῖδα δ' ἐμοὶ λύσαιτε φίλην, τὰ δ' ἄποινα δέχεσθαι,  
 ἀζόμενοι Διὸς υἱὸν ἐκηβόλον Ἀπόλλωνα.”

Ἐνθ' ἄλλοι μὲν πάντες ἐπενφήμησαν Ἀχαιοὶ  
 αἰδεῖσθαι θ' ἱερῆα καὶ ἀγλαὰ δέχθαι ἄποινα·  
 ἀλλ' οὐκ Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνονι ἥνδανε θυμῷ,  
 25 ἀλλὰ κακῶς ἀφίει, κρατερὸν δ' ἐπὶ μῦθον ἔτελλε·  
 “μή σε, γέρον, κοίλῃσιν ἐγὼ παρὰ νηυσὶ κιχείω  
 ἢ νῦν δηθύνοντ' ἢ ὕστερον αὖτις ἰόντα,  
 μή νύ τοι οὐ χραίσμῃ σκῆπτρον καὶ στέμμα θεοῖο.  
 τὴν δ' ἐγὼ οὐ λύσω· πρίν μιν καὶ γῆρας ἔπεισιν<sup>4</sup>  
 30 ἡμετέρῳ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ, ἐν Ἄργεϊ, τηλόθι πάτρης,  
 ἱστὸν ἐποικομένην καὶ ἐμὸν λέχος ἀντιόωσαν·  
 ἀλλ' ἴθι, μή μ' ἐρέθιζε, σαώτερος ὥς κε νέηαι.”

Ὡς ἔφατ', ἔδδεισεν δ' ὁ γέρον καὶ ἐπέειθετο μύθῳ·  
 βῆ δ' ἀκέων<sup>5</sup> παρὰ θίνα πολυφλοίσβοιο θαλάσσης·  
 35 πολλὰ δ' ἔπειτ' ἀπάνευθε κιὼν ἡρᾶθ' ὁ γεραιὸς  
 Ἀπόλλωνι ἄνακτι, τὸν ἡύκομος τέκε Λητώ·  
 “κλυθί μεν, ἀργυρότοξ", ὃς Χρῦσιν ἀμφιβέβηκας  
 Κίλλαν τε ζαθέην Τενέδοιό τε ἱφὶ ἀνάσσεις,  
 Σμινθεῦ, εἴ ποτέ τοι χαρίεντ' ἐπὶ νηὸν ἔρεψα,  
 40 ἢ εἰ δὴ ποτέ τοι κατὰ πύονα μηρί' ἔκηα  
 ταύρων ἡδ' αἰγῶν, τόδε μοι κρήνην ἐέλδωρ·  
 τίσειαν Δαναοὶ ἐμὰ δάκρυα σοῖσι βέλεσσιν.”

Ὡς ἔφατ' εὐχόμενος, τοῦ δ' ἔκλυε Φοῖβος Ἀπόλ-  
 λων,

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greaved Achaeans, to you may the gods who have dwellings on Olympus grant that you sack the city of Priam, and return home safely; but set my dear child free for me, and accept the ransom in reverence for the son of Zeus, Apollo, who strikes from afar."

Then all the rest of the Achaeans shouted their agreement, to respect the priest and accept the glorious ransom; yet this did not please the heart of Agamemnon, son of Atreus, but he sent him away harshly, and laid on him a stern command: "Let me not find you, old man, by the hollow ships, either loitering now or coming back later, for fear your staff and the god's ribbon not protect you. But her I will not set free; before that, old age will come on her in our house, in Argos, far from her country, as she walks back and forth in front of the loom and shares my bed. But go; do not anger me, so that you may go the safer."

So he spoke, and the old man was seized with fear and obeyed his words. He went in silence along the shore of the loud-resounding sea; and then, when he had gone apart, the old man prayed earnestly to the lord Apollo, whom fair-haired Leto bore: "Hear me, you of the silver bow, who have under your protection Chryse and sacred Cilla, and who rule mightily over Tenedos, Smintheus, if ever I roofed over a pleasing shrine for you, or if ever I burned to you fat thigh pieces of bulls or goats, fulfill for me this wish: let the Danaans pay for my tears by your arrows."

So he spoke in prayer, and Phoebus Apollo heard him.

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<sup>4</sup> Lines 29–31 were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>5</sup> ἀκέων: ἀχέων Zenodotus.

- βῆ δὲ κατ' Οὐλύμποιο καρήνων χωόμενος κῆρ,  
 45 τόξ' ὥμοισιν ἔχων ἀμφηρεφέα τε φαρέτρην.  
 ἔκλαγξαν δ' ἄρ' οἰστοὶ ἐπ' ὤμων χωομένοιο,<sup>6</sup>  
 αὐτοῦ κινηθέντος. ὃ δ' ἦιε νυκτὶ ἐοικώς.<sup>7</sup>  
 ἔζετ' ἔπειτ' ἀπάνευθε νεῶν, μετὰ δ' ἰὼν ἔηκε  
 δεινὴ δὲ κλαγγὴ γένετ' ἀργυρέοιο βιοῖο.  
 50 οὐρήας μὲν πρῶτον ἐπώχετο καὶ κύνας ἀργούς,  
 αὐτὰρ ἔπειτ' αὐτοῖσι βέλος ἔχεπεν κὲς ἐφίεις  
 βάλλ'. αἰεὶ δὲ πυραὶ νεκύων καίοντο θαμειαί.  
 Ἐννήμαρ μὲν ἀνὰ στρατὸν ὥχετο κῆλα θεοῖο,  
 τῇ δεκάτῃ δ' ἀγορήνδε καλέσσατο λαὸν Ἀχιλλεύς.  
 55 τῷ γὰρ ἐπὶ φρεσὶ θῆκε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη.  
 κήδετο γὰρ Δαναῶν, ὅτι ῥα θνήσκοντας ὀράτο.  
 οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν ἤγερθεν ὀμηγερέες τ' ἐγένοντο,  
 τοῖσι δ' ἀνιστάμενος μετέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλλεύς·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ, νῦν ἄμμε παλιμπλαγχθέντας οἶω  
 60 ἅψ ἀπονοστήσειν, εἴ κεν θάνατόν γε φύγοιμεν,  
 εἰ δὴ ὁμοῦ πόλεμός τε δαμᾶ καὶ λοιμὸς Ἀχαιοὺς.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ τινα μάντιν ἐρείομεν ἢ ἱερῆα,  
 ἢ καὶ ὄνειροπόλον, καὶ γάρ τ' ὄναρ ἐκ Διὸς ἐστίν,<sup>8</sup>  
 ὅς κ' εἴποι ὅ τι τόσσον ἐχώσατο Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων,  
 65 εἴτ' ἄρ' ὅ γ' εὐχολῆς ἐπιμέμφεται εἴθ' ἐκατόμβης,  
 αἷ κέν πως ἀρνῶν κνίσσης αἰγῶν τε τελείων  
 βούλεται ἀντιάσας ἡμῖν ἀπὸ λοιγὸν ἀμῦναι.”  
 Ἦ τοι ὃ γ' ὥς εἰπὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετο· τοῖσι δ' ἀνέστη  
 Κάλχας<sup>9</sup> Θεστορίδης, οἶωνοπόλων ὄχ' ἄριστος,

<sup>6</sup> Lines 46 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.



## BOOK 1

Down from the peaks of Olympus he strode, angry at heart, with his bow and covered quiver on his shoulders. The arrows rattled on the shoulders of the angry god as he moved; and his coming was like the night. Then he sat down apart from the ships and let fly an arrow; terrible was the twang of the silver bow. The mules he attacked first and the swift dogs, but then on the men themselves he let fly his stinging arrows, and struck; and ever did the pyres of the dead burn thick.

For nine days the missiles of the god ranged through the army, but on the tenth Achilles called the army to the place of assembly, for the goddess, white-armed Hera, had put it in his heart; for she pitied the Danaans because she saw them dying. So, when they were assembled and met together, among them rose and spoke Achilles, swift of foot: "Son of Atreus, now I think we shall be driven back and return home, our plans thwarted—if we should escape death, that is—if indeed war and pestilence alike are to subdue the Achaeans. But come, let us ask some seer or priest, or some reader of dreams—for a dream too is from Zeus—who might tell us why Phoebus Apollo has conceived such anger, whether it is because of a vow that he blames us, or a hecatomb; in the hope that perhaps he may accept the savor of lambs and unblemished goats, and be minded to ward off destruction from us."

When he had thus spoken he sat down, and among them rose up Calchas, son of Thestor, far the best of divin-

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<sup>7</sup> *εοικώς*: *έλυσθεις* Zenodotus.

<sup>8</sup> Line 63 was rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>9</sup> *Κάλχας*: *μάντις* Zenodotus.

- 70 ὃς ἤδη τά τ' ἔοντα τά τ' ἐσσόμενα πρό τ' ἔοντα,  
καὶ νήεσσ' ἠγήσατ' Ἀχαιῶν Ἴλιον εἴσω  
ἦν διὰ μαντοσύνην, τήν οἱ πόρε Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων.  
ὃ σφιν εὐφρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν.<sup>10</sup>  
“ὦ Ἀχιλεῦ, κέλεαί με, δίφιλε, μυθήσασθαι
- 75 μῆνιν Ἀπόλλωνος ἑκατηβελέταο ἄνακτος·  
τοιγὰρ ἐγὼν ἐρέω· σὺ δὲ σύνθεο καί μοι ὄμοσον  
ἦ μὲν μοι πρόφρων ἔπεσιν καὶ χερσὶν ἀρήξειν·  
ἦ γὰρ οἶομαι ἄνδρα χολωσέμεν, ὃς μέγα πάντων  
Ἀργείων κρατεεὶ καὶ οἱ πείθονται Ἀχαιοί.
- 80 κρείσσω γὰρ βασιλεύς, ὅτε χώσεται ἀνδρὶ χέρη.<sup>11</sup>  
εἷ περ γάρ τε χόλον γε καὶ αὐτῆμαρ καταπέψῃ,  
ἀλλὰ τε καὶ μετόπισθεν ἔχει κότον, ὃφρα τελέσῃ  
ἐν στήθεσσι ἐοῖσι. σὺ δὲ φράσαι εἷ με σαώσεις.  
Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλ-  
λεύς·
- 85 “θαρσήσας μάλα εἶπε θεοπρόπιον ὃ τι οἶσθα·  
οὐ μὰ γὰρ Ἀπόλλωνα δίφιλον, ᾧ τε σύ, Κάλχαν,  
εὐχόμενος Δαναοῖσι θεοπροπίας ἀναφαίνεις,  
οὗ τις ἐμεῦ ζῶντος καὶ ἐπὶ χθονὶ δερκομένοιο  
σοὶ κοίλῃς παρὰ νηυσὶ βαρείας χεῖρας ἐποίσει
- 90 συμπάντων Δαναῶν, οὐδ' ἦν Ἀγαμέμνονα εἵπης,  
ὃς νῦν πολλὸν ἄριστος Ἀχαιῶν<sup>12</sup> εὐχεται εἶναι.”  
Καὶ τότε δὴ θάρσησε καὶ ἠΰδα μάντις ἀμύμων·  
“οὔτ' ἄρ' ὃ γ' εὐχολῆς ἐπιμέμφεται οὔθ' ἐκατόμβης,  
ἀλλ' ἔνεκ' ἀρητῆρος, ὃν ἠτίμησ' Ἀγαμέμνων
- 95 οὐδ' ἀπέλυσε θύγατρα καὶ οὐκ ἀπεδέξατ' ἄποινα,<sup>13</sup>

ers, who had knowledge of all things that were, and that were to be, and that had been before, and who had guided the ships of the Achaeans to Ilios by the gift of prophecy that Phoebus Apollo had granted him. He with good intent addressed their assembly and spoke among them: "Achilles, dear to Zeus, you ask me to declare the wrath of Apollo, who smites from afar. Well, then, I will speak; but do you consider, and swear that you will be eager to defend me with word and hand; for in truth I think that I shall anger a man who rules mightily over all the Argives, and whom the Achaeans obey. For a king is mightier when he is angry at a lesser man. For even if he swallows down his anger for the one day, still afterwards he holds resentment in his heart until he fulfills it. Consider, then, if you will keep me safe."

Then in answer to him spoke Achilles, swift of foot: "Take heart, and speak out any oracle you know, for by Apollo, dear to Zeus, to whom you pray, Calchas, and declare oracles to the Danaans, no one, while I live and have sight on the earth, shall lay heavy hands on you beside the hollow ships, no one of all the Danaans, not even if it is Agamemnon you mean, who now declares himself far the best of the Achaeans."

Then the incomparable seer took heart, and spoke, saying: "It is not because of a vow that he blames us, nor a hecatomb, but because of the priest whom Agamemnon dishonored, and did not release his daughter nor accept

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<sup>10</sup> Line 73 was given by Zenodotus in the form,  
ὅς μιν ἀμειβόμενος ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

<sup>11</sup> Line 80 was rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>12</sup> Ἀχαιῶν: ἐνὶ στρατῷ.

<sup>13</sup> Lines 95 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

- τοῦνεκ' ἄρ' ἄλγε' ἔδωκεν ἑκηβόλος ἥδ' ἔτι δώσει·  
οὐδ' ὃ γε πρὶν Δαναοῖσιν αἰκέα λοιγὸν ἀπώσει  
πρὶν γ' ἀπὸ πατρὶ φίλῳ δόμεναι ἐλικώπιδα κούρην  
ἀπριάτην ἀνάποινον, ἄγειν θ' ἱερὴν ἑκατόμβην  
100 ἐς Χρῦσιν· τότε κέν μιν ἱλασσάμενοι πεπίθοιμεν.”
- Ἦ τοι ὃ γ' ὥς εἰπὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετο· τοῖσι δ' ἀνέστη  
ἥρως Ἀτρεΐδης εὐρὺν κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
ἀχνύμενος· μένεος δὲ μέγα φρένες ἀμφὶ μέλαιναι  
πίμπλαντ', ὅσσε δέ οἱ πυρὶ λαμπετόωντι ἔϊκτην.
- 105 Κάλχαντα πρῶτιστα κάκ' ὀσσομένος προσέειπε·  
“μάντι κακῶν, οὐ πῶ ποτέ μοι τὸ κρήγνυν εἶπας·  
αἰεὶ τοι τὰ κάκ' ἐστὶ φίλα φρεσὶ μαντεύεσθαι,  
ἐσθλὸν δ' οὔτε τί πω εἶπας ἔπος οὔτ' ἐτέλεσσας.  
καὶ νῦν ἐν Δαναοῖσι θεοπροπέων ἀγορεύεις  
110 ὥς δὴ τοῦδ' ἔνεκά σφιν ἑκηβόλος ἄλγεα τεύχει,<sup>14</sup>  
οὔνεκ' ἐγὼ κούρης Χρυσηίδος ἀγλὰ ἄποινα  
οὐκ ἔθελον δέξασθαι, ἐπεὶ πολὺ βούλομαι αὐτὴν  
οἴκοι ἔχειν. καὶ γάρ ῥα Κλυταιμνήστρης προβέβουλα  
κουριδίης ἀλόχου, ἐπεὶ οὐ ἑθέν ἐστι χερείων,  
115 οὐδέμας οὐδὲ φυήν, οὔτ' ἄρ φρένας οὔτε τι ἔργα.  
ἀλλὰ καὶ ὧς ἐθέλω δόμεναι πάλιν, εἰ τό γ' ἄμεινον·  
βούλομ' ἐγὼ λαὸν σόον ἔμμεναι ἢ ἀπολέσθαι.<sup>15</sup>  
αὐτὰρ ἐμοὶ γέρας αὐτιχ' ἐτοιμάσατ', ὄφρα μὴ οἶος  
Ἀργείων ἀγέραςτος ἔω, ἐπεὶ οὐδὲ ἔοικε·  
120 λεύσσετε γὰρ τό γε πάντες, ὃ μοι γέρας ἔρχεται  
ἄλλη.”

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα ποδάρκης δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς·  
“Ἀτρεΐδῃ κύδιστε, φιλοκτεανώτατε πάντων,

the ransom. For this reason the god who strikes from afar has given woes, and will continue to give them, nor will he drive off from the Danaans loathsome destruction until we give back to her father the bright-eyed maiden, unbought, unransomed, and take a holy hecatomb to Chryse; then perhaps we might appease his wrath and persuade him."

When he had thus spoken, he sat down, and among them rose the warrior, son of Atreus, wide-ruling Agamemnon, deeply vexed; and with rage was his black heart wholly filled, and his eyes were like blazing fire. To Calchas first of all he spoke, and his look threatened trouble: "Prophet of evil, never yet have you given me a favorable prophecy; always it is dear to your heart to prophesy evil, and no word of good have you ever yet spoken or brought to fulfillment. And among the Danaans in assembly you utter your prophecies, and declare that it is for this reason that the god who strikes from afar is bringing woes on them, because I would not accept the glorious ransom for the girl, the daughter of Chryses, since I would far rather keep her at home. For in fact I prefer her to Clytemnestra, my wedded wife, since she is in no way inferior to her, either in form or in stature, or in mind, or in handiwork. But even so I am minded to give her back if that is better; I would rather have the army safe than perishing. But for me make ready a prize at once, so that I may not be the only one of the Argives without a prize, since that is not right; for you all see this, that my prize goes from me elsewhere."

Then in answer to him spoke noble Achilles, swift of foot: "Most glorious son of Atreus, most covetous of all

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<sup>14</sup> Line 110 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>15</sup> Line 117 was rejected by Zenodotus.

- πῶς γάρ τοι δώσουσι γέρας μεγάθυμοι Ἀχαιοί;  
 οὐδέ τί που ἴδμεν ξυνήια κείμενα πολλά,  
 125 ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν πολίων ἐξεπράθομεν, τὰ δέδασται,  
 λαοὺς δ' οὐκ ἐπέοικε παλίλλογα ταῦτ' ἐπαγείρειν.  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν νῦν τήνδε θεῷ πρόες· αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιοὶ  
 τριπλῇ τετραπλῇ τ' ἀποτίσομεν, αἶ κέ ποθι Ζεὺς  
 δῶσι πόλιν Τροίην ἐντείχεον ἐξαλαπάξαι.”  
 130 Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη κρείων Ἀγα-  
 μέμνων·  
 “μὴ δὴ οὕτως, ἀγαθός περ ἐὼν, θεοείκελ' Ἀχιλλεῦ,  
 κλέπτε νόῳ, ἐπεὶ οὐ παρελεύσεαι οὐδέ με πείσεις.  
 ἦ ἐθέλεις, ὄφρ' αὐτὸς ἔχῃς γέρας, αὐτὰρ ἔμ' αὕτως<sup>16</sup>  
 ἦσθαι δευόμενον, κέλεαι δέ με τήνδ' ἀποδοῦναι;  
 135 ἀλλ' εἰ μὲν δώσουσι γέρας μεγάθυμοι Ἀχαιοί,  
 ἄρσαντες κατὰ θυμόν, ὅπως ἀντάξιον ἔσται·  
 εἰ δέ κε μὴ δώωσιν, ἐγὼ δέ κεν αὐτὸς ἔλωμαι  
 ἦ τεδὸν ἦ Αἴαντος ἰὼν γέρας, ἦ Ὀδυσῆος  
 ἄξω ἐλών· ὁ δέ κεν κεχολώσεται, ὃν κεν ἴκωμαι.<sup>17</sup>  
 140 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι μὲν ταῦτα μεταφρασόμεσθα καὶ αὖτις,  
 νῦν δ' ἄγε νῆα μέλαιναν ἐρύσσομεν εἰς ἄλα δῖαν,  
 ἐν δ' ἐρέτας ἐπιτηδὲς ἀγείρομεν, ἐς δ' ἐκατόμβην  
 θείομεν, ἂν δ' αὐτὴν Χρυσήϊδα καλλιπάρηον<sup>18</sup>  
 βήσομεν· εἰς δέ τις ἀρχὸς ἀνὴρ βουληφόρος ἔστω,  
 145 ἦ Αἴας ἦ Ἰδομενεὺς ἦ δῖος Ὀδυσσεὺς  
 ἦ ἐ σύ, Πηλεΐδῃ, πάντων ἐκπαγλότατ' ἀνδρῶν,  
 ὄφρ' ἡμῖν ἐκάεργον ἰλάσσεαι ἱερὰ ρέξας.”  
 Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς  
 Ἀχιλλεύς·

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men, how shall the great-hearted Achaeans<sup>16</sup> give you a prize? We know nothing of any wealth laid up in common store, but whatever we took by pillage from the cities has been distributed, and it is not right to take this back from the men. Do you give her up at the god's command, and we Achaeans will recompense you threefold and fourfold, if ever Zeus grants us to sack the well-walled city of Troy."

Then in answer to him lord Agamemnon spoke: "Do not in this way, valiant though you are, godlike Achilles, try to deceive me by your cleverness, for you will not outstrip me nor persuade me. Do you really intend, so long as you yourself keep your prize, that I sit here like this lacking one, since you ask me to give her back? Let the great-hearted Achaeans give me a prize, suiting it to my heart so that the recompense is equal! But if they do not give it, then I will come myself and take your prize, or that of Aias; or that of Odysseus I will seize and carry off. Angry will he be, to whomever I come. But of these things we will take thought later on; now let us launch a black ship into the bright sea, and man it with a due number of rowers, and place on board a hecatomb, and embark on it the fair-cheeked daughter of Chryses herself. And let one that is a counselor take command, Aias, or Idomeneus, or noble Odysseus, or you, son of Peleus, of all men most daunting, that you may offer sacrifice and appease him who works from afar."

Then with an angry glance Achilles swift of foot spoke

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<sup>16</sup> Lines 133 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>17</sup> Line 139 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>18</sup> Line 143 was rejected by Zenodotus.

“ὦ μοι, ἀναιδείην ἐπιειμένε, κερδαλεόφρον,  
 150 πῶς τίς τοι πρόφρων ἔπεσιν πείθεται Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἢ ὁδὸν ἐλθέμεναι ἢ ἀνδράσιν ἱφι μάχεσθαι;  
 οὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ Τρώων ἔνεκ’ ἤλυθον αἰχμητῶν  
 δεῦρο μαχησόμενος, ἐπεὶ οὐ τί μοι αἴτιοί εἰσιν·  
 οὐ γάρ πώ ποτ’ ἐμὰς βούς ἤλασαν οὐδὲ μὲν ἵππους,  
 155 οὐδέ ποτ’ ἐν Φθίῃ ἐριβώλακι βωτιανείρῃ  
 καρπὸν ἐδηλήσαντ’, ἐπεὶ ἦ μάλα πολλὰ μεταξὺ  
 οὔρεά τε σκιοέοντα θάλασσά τε ἡχέεσσα·  
 ἀλλὰ σοί, ὦ μέγ’ ἀναιδές, ἅμ’ ἐσπόμεθ’, ὄφρα σὺ  
 χαίρης,

τιμὴν ἀρνύμενοι Μενελάῳ σοί τε, κυνῶπα,  
 160 πρὸς Τρώων· τῶν οὐ τι μετατρέπη οὐδ’ ἀλεγίζεις.<sup>19</sup>  
 καὶ δὴ μοι γέρας αὐτὸς ἀφαιρήσεσθαι ἀπειλεῖς,  
 ᾧ ἔπι πολλὰ μόγησα, δόσαν δέ μοι νῆες Ἀχαιῶν.  
 οὐ μὲν σοί ποτε ἴσον ἔχω γέρας, ὅππότε Ἀχαιοὶ  
 Τρώων ἐκπέρσωσ’ ἐν ναιόμενον πτολίεθρον·  
 165 ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν πλεῖον πολυαῖκος πολέμοιο  
 χεῖρες ἐμαὶ διέπουσ’· ἀτὰρ ἦν ποτε δασμὸς ἵκηται,  
 σοὶ τὸ γέρας πολὺ μείζον, ἐγὼ δ’ ὀλίγον τε φίλον τε  
 ἔρχομ’ ἔχων ἐπὶ νῆας, ἐπεὶ κε κάμω πολεμίζων.  
 νῦν δ’ εἶμι Φθίηνδ’, ἐπεὶ ἦ πολὺ φέρτερόν ἐστιν  
 170 οἴκαδ’ ἵμεν σὺν νηυσὶ κορωνίσιν, οὐδέ σ’ οἶω  
 ἐνθάδ’ αἵτιμος ἐὼν ἄφενος καὶ πλοῦτον ἀφύξειν.”

Τὸν δ’ ἡμείβετ’ ἔπειτα ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 “φεῦγε μάλ’, εἴ τοι θυμὸς ἐπέσσυται, οὐδέ σ’ ἐγὼ γε  
 λίσσομαι εἵνεκ’ ἐμεῖο μένειν· πᾶρ’ ἐμοί γε καὶ ἄλλοι  
 175 οἳ κέ με τιμήσουσι, μάλιστα δὲ μητίετα Ζεὺς.



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to him: "What, you clothed in shamelessness, you crafty of mind, how can any Achaean eagerly obey your words either to go on a journey or to do battle? I did not come here to fight because of the spearmen of Troy, since they are in no way at fault toward me. Never did they drive off my cattle or my horses, nor ever in deep-soiled Phthia, nourisher of men, did they lay waste the grain, for many things lie between us—shadowy mountains and sounding sea. But you, shameless one, we followed here in order to please you, seeking to win recompense for Menelaus and for you, dog-face, from the Trojans. This you do not regard or take thought of; and you even threaten that you will yourself take from me the prize for which I toiled much, and the sons of the Achaeans gave it to me. Never do I have a prize like yours, when the Achaeans sack a well-peopled city of the Trojans; my hands bear the brunt of tumultuous battle, but when the distribution comes, your prize is far greater, while I go to my ships with some small thing, yet my own, when I have grown weary with fighting. Now I will go to Phthia, since it is far better to return home with my beaked ships, nor do I intend, while without honor here, to pile up goods and wealth for you."

Then answered him Agamemnon, the lord of men: "Flee then, if your heart is set on it; I am not begging you to stay for my sake. With me are others that will do me honor, and above all Zeus, the lord of counsel. Most hateful to me

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<sup>19</sup> Line 160 was rejected by Zenodotus.

- ἔχθιστος δέ μοί ἐσσι διοτρεφέων βασιλῆων·  
 αἰεὶ γάρ τοι ἔρις τε φίλη πόλεμοί τε μάχαι τε.<sup>20</sup>  
 εἰ μάλα καρτερός ἐσσι, θεός που σοὶ τό γ' ἔδωκεν.  
 οἴκαδ' ἰὼν σὺν νηυσὶ τε σῆς καὶ σοῖς ἐτάροισι  
 180 Μυρμιδόνεσσιν ἄνασσε, σέθεν δ' ἐγὼ οὐκ ἀλεγίζω  
 οὐδ' ὄθομαι κοτέοντος. ἀπειλήσω δέ τοι ὦδε·  
 ὥς ἔμ' ἀφαιρεῖται Χρυσηΐδα Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων,  
 τὴν μὲν ἐγὼ σὺν νηὶ τ' ἐμῇ καὶ ἐμοῖς ἐτάροισι  
 πέμψω, ἐγὼ δέ κ' ἄγω Βρισηΐδα καλλιπάρηον  
 185 αὐτὸς ἰὼν κλισίηνδε, τὸ σὸν γέρας, ὅφρ' ἐν εἰδῆς  
 ὅσσον φέρτερός εἰμι σέθεν, στυγέη δέ καὶ ἄλλος  
 ἴσον ἐμοὶ φάσθαι καὶ ὁμοιωθήμεναι ἄντην.”  
 ὣς φάτο· Πηλεΐωνι δ' ἄχος γένετ', ἐν δέ οἱ ἦτορ  
 στήθεσσιν λασίοισι διάνδιχα μερμήριξεν,  
 190 ἦ ὅ γε φάσγανον ὀξὺ ἐρυσσάμενος παρὰ μηροῦ  
 τοὺς μὲν ἀναστήσειεν, ὁ δ' Ἀτρεΐδην ἐναρίζοι,  
 ἦε χόλον παύσειεν ἐρητύσειέ τε θυμόν.<sup>21</sup>  
 ἦος ὃ ταῦθ' ὥρμαινε κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμόν,  
 ἔλκετο δ' ἐκ κολεοῖο μέγα ξίφος, ἦλθε δ' Ἀθήνη  
 195 οὐρανόθεν· πρὸ γὰρ ἦκε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη,<sup>22</sup>  
 ἄμφω ὁμῶς θυμῷ φιλέουσά τε κηδομένη τε.  
 στή δ' ὄπιθεν, ξανθῆς δὲ κόμης ἔλε Πηλεΐωνα  
 οἴῳ φαινομένη· τῶν δ' ἄλλων οὐ τις ὀράτο.  
 θάμβησεν δ' Ἀχιλεὺς, μετὰ δ' ἐτράπετ', αὐτίκα δ' ἔγνω  
 200 Παλλάδ' Ἀθηναίην· δεινὴ δέ οἱ ὅσσε φάανθεν·  
 καί μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “τιπτ' αὐτ', αἰγιόχοιο Διὸς τέκος, εἰλήλουθας;

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are you of the kings, nurtured by Zeus, for always is strife dear to you, and wars and battles. If you are most powerful, a god, I think, gave you this. Go home with your ships and your men, and lord it over your Myrmidons; for you I care not, nor am I concerned about your anger. And this will be my threat to you: since Phoebus Apollo takes from me the daughter of Chryses, her with a ship of mine and men of mine I will send back, but I will myself come to your hut and take the fair-cheeked Briseïs, that prize of yours, so that you may well know how much mightier I am than you, and another too may shrink from declaring himself my equal and likening himself to me to my face."

So he spoke, and grief came upon the son of Peleus, and within his shaggy breast his heart was divided in counsel, whether he should draw his sharp sword from his side and break up the assembly, and kill the son of Atreus, or whether he should check his wrath and curb his spirit. While he pondered this in his mind and heart, and was drawing his great sword from its sheath, Athene came from heaven, sent by the goddess, white-armed Hera, for in her heart she loved them both alike and cared for them. She stood behind him, and caught the son of Peleus by his tawny hair, allowing herself to be seen by him alone, and of the rest no one saw her. And Achilles was struck with wonder, and turned round, and at once recognized Pallas Athene; and terribly did her eyes flash. Then he spoke to her with winged words, and said: "Why have you come this time, daughter of Zeus who bears the aegis? Was it so

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<sup>20</sup> Line 177 (= 5.891) was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>21</sup> Line 192 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>22</sup> Lines 195 f. (cf. 208 f.) were rejected by Aristarchus.

ἥ ἵνα ὕβριν ἴδῃς Ἀγαμέμνωνος Ἀτρεΐδαο;  
ἀλλ' ἔκ τοι ἐρέω, τὸ δὲ καὶ τελέεσθαι οἶω·

205 ἧς ὑπεροπλήσῃ τάχ' ἂν ποτε θυμὸν ὀλέσση·”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·  
“ἦλθον ἐγὼ παύσουσα τεὸν μένος, αἶ κε πίθῃαι,  
οὐρανόθεν· πρὸ δέ μ' ἦκε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη,  
ἄμφω ὁμῶς θυμῷ φιλέουσά τε κηδομένη τε.

210 ἀλλ' ἄγε λῆγ' ἔριδος, μηδὲ ξίφος ἔλκεο χειρί·  
ἀλλ' ἥ τοι ἔπεσιν μὲν ὀνειδισον ὥς ἔσεται περ·  
ὦδε γὰρ ἐξερέω, τὸ δὲ καὶ τετελεσμένον ἔσται.

καὶ ποτέ τοι τρὶς τόσσα παρέσσεται ἀγλαὰ δῶρα  
ὕβριος εἵνεκα τῆσδε· σὺ δ' ἴσχειο, πείθεο δ' ἡμῖν.”

215 Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλλεύς·

“χρὴ μὲν σφωίτερόν γε, θεά, ἔπος εἰρύσσασθαι  
καὶ μάλα περ θυμῷ κεχολωμένον· ὥς γὰρ ἄμεινον.  
ὅς κε θεοῖς ἐπιπείθεται, μάλα τ' ἔκλυον αὐτοῦ.”

Ἦ καὶ ἐπ' ἀργυρέῃ κώπῃ σχέθε χεῖρα βαρεῖαν,<sup>23</sup>  
220 αἶψ' δ' ἐς κουλεὸν ὥσε μέγα ξίφος, οὐδ' ἀπίθησε  
μύθῳ Ἀθηναίης· ἥ δ' Οὐλυμπόνδε βεβήκει  
δώματ' ἐς αἰγιοχόιο Διὸς μετὰ δαίμονας ἄλλους.

Πηλεΐδης δ' ἐξαὐτὶς ἀταρτηροῖς ἐπέεσσιν  
Ἀτρεΐδην προσέειπε, καὶ οὐ πω λῆγε χόλοιο·

225 “οἴνοβαρές, κυνὸς ὄμματ' ἔχων, κραδίην δ' ἐλάφοιο,<sup>24</sup>  
οὔτε ποτ' ἐς πόλεμον ἅμα λαῷ θωρηχθῆναι  
οὔτε λόχονδ' ἵεναι σὺν ἀριστήεσσιν Ἀχαιῶν  
τέτληκας θυμῷ· τὸ δέ τοι κῆρ εἵδεται εἶναι.

<sup>23</sup> In the place of lines 219 f. Zenodotus gave,

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that you might see the insolence of Agamem<sup>ν</sup>non, son of Atreus? But I will tell you, and I think this will come to pass: through his own insolent acts he will soon lose his life."

Then the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, said to him: "I have come from heaven to put a stop to your anger, if you will listen, and the goddess, white-armed Hera, sent me, for in her heart she loves you both alike, and cares for you. Come now, cease from strife, and let not your hand draw your sword. With words indeed taunt him with what will happen; for thus I will speak, and surely this thing will come to pass: one day three times as many glorious gifts will be yours on account of this insult. Restrain yourself, therefore, and obey us."

Then in answer to her spoke Achilles, swift of foot: "Goddess, one must observe the words of you two, no matter how angry he may be at heart, for it is better so. Whoever obeys the gods, to him they gladly give ear."

He spoke, and checked his heavy hand on the silver hilt, and back into its sheath thrust the great sword, and failed not to obey the word of Athene; but she was already gone to Olympus, to the halls of Zeus who bears the aegis, to join the company of the other gods.

But the son of Peleus again addressed the son of Atreus with violent words, and did not yet cease from his wrath: "You heavy with wine, with the face of a dog but the heart of a deer, never have you dared to arm yourself for battle with your troops, or to go into an ambush with the chief men of the Achaeans. That seems to you to be death. It is

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ὦς εἰπὼν πάλιν ὥσε μέγα ξίφος οὐδ' ἀπίθησε

<sup>24</sup> Lines 225-233 were rejected by Zenodotus.

- ἥ πολὺν λώϊόν ἐστι κατὰ στρατὸν εὐρὺν Ἀχαιῶν  
 230 δῶρ' ἀποαιρεῖσθαι ὅς τις σέθεν ἀντίον εἴπῃ·  
 δημοβόρος βασιλεύς, ἐπεὶ οὐτιδανοῖσιν ἀνάσσεις·  
 ἥ γὰρ ἄν, Ἀτρεΐδῃ, νῦν ὕστατα λωβήσαιο.  
 ἀλλ' ἔκ τοι ἐρέω καὶ ἐπὶ μέγαν ὄρκον ὁμοῦμαι·  
 ναὶ μὰ τόδε σκῆπτρον, τὸ μὲν οὐ ποτε φύλλα καὶ ὄζους  
 235 φύσει, ἐπεὶ δὴ πρῶτα τομῇν ἐν ὄρεσσι λέλοιπεν,  
 οὐδ' ἀναθελήσει· περὶ γάρ ρά ἐ χαλκὸς ἔλεψε  
 φύλλα τε καὶ φλοῖόν, νῦν αὐτέ μιν νῆες Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἐν παλάμῃς φορέουσι δικασπόλοι, οἳ τε θέμιστας  
 πρὸς Διὸς εἰρύναται· ὁ δέ τοι μέγας ἔσσεται ὄρκος·  
 240 ἥ ποτ' Ἀχιλλῆος ποθὴ ἵξεται νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
 σύμπαντας· τότε δ' οὐ τι δυνήσεται ἀχνύμενός περ  
 χραϊσμεῖν, εὖτ' ἂν πολλοὶ ὑφ' Ἑκτορος ἀνδροφόνιοιο  
 θνήσκοντες πίπτωσι· σὺ δ' ἔνδοθι θυμὸν ἀμύξεις  
 χῳόμενος ὃ τ' ἄριστον Ἀχαιῶν οὐδὲν ἔτισας.”  
 245 ὣς φάτο Πηλεΐδης, ποτὶ δὲ σκῆπτρον βάλε γαίῃ  
 χρυσείοις ἥλοισι πεπαρμένον, ἔζετο δ' αὐτός·  
 Ἀτρεΐδης δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐμήνιε· τοῖσι δὲ Νέστωρ  
 ἡδυεπὴς ἀνόρουσε, λιγυρὸν Πυλίων ἀγορηγῆς,  
 τοῦ καὶ ἀπὸ γλώσσης μέλιτος γλυκίων ῥέειν αὐδῇ.  
 250 τῷ δ' ἤδη δύο μὲν γενεαὶ μερόπων ἀνθρώπων  
 ἐφθίαθ', οἳ οἱ πρόσθεν ἅμα τράφεν ἡδ' ἐγένοντο  
 ἐν Πύλῳ ἡγαθέῃ, μετὰ δὲ τριτάτοισιν ἀνασσειν.  
 ὃ σφιν ἐν φρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν·  
 “ὦ πόποι, ἥ μέγα πένθος Ἀχαιίδα γαῖαν ἰκάνει·  
 255 ἥ κεν γηθῆσαι Πρίαμος Πριάμοιό τε παῖδες  
 ἄλλοι τε Τρῶες μέγα κεν κεχαροῖατο θυμῷ,

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surely far better to take back the gifts of whoever through the wide camp of the Achaeans speaks in opposition to you. People-devouring king, since you rule over nobodies! Otherwise, son of Atreus, you would now be committing your final outrage. But I will speak frankly to you, and will swear a mighty oath on it: by this staff here—that will never again put out leaves or shoots since it first left its stump in the mountains, nor will it again grow green, for the bronze has stripped it of leaves and bark, and now the sons of the Achaeans that give judgment bear it in their hands, those who guard the laws that come from Zeus; and this shall be for you a mighty oath—surely some day long-ing for Achilles will come on the sons of the Achaeans one and all, and on that day you will in no way be able to help them for all your grief, when many will be laid low at the hands of man-slaying Hector. But you will gnaw your heart within you in wrath that you did not at all honor the best of the Achaeans.”

So spoke the son of Peleus, and down to the earth he dashed the staff studded with golden nails, and himself sat down; opposite him the son of Atreus continued to rage. Then among them rose up Nestor, sweet of speech, the clear-voiced orator of the men of Pylos, he from whose tongue speech flowed sweeter than honey. Two generations of mortal men he had already seen pass away, who long ago were born and reared with him in sacred Pylos, and he was king among the third. He with good intent addressed their assembly and spoke among them: “Well, now! Truly great grief has come upon the land of Achaea. Truly Priam would rejoice and the sons of Priam, and the rest of the Trojans would be greatly glad at heart if they

- εἰ σφῶιν τάδε πάντα πυθοῖατο μαρναμένονιν,  
οἱ περὶ μὲν βουλὴν Δαναῶν, περὶ δ' ἔστέ μάχεσθαι.  
ἀλλὰ πίθεσθ'· ἄμφω δὲ νεωτέρω ἔστων ἐμείο.  
260 ἦδη γάρ ποτ' ἐγὼ καὶ ἀρείοσιν ἢ ἐπερ ὑμῖν<sup>25</sup>  
ἀνδράσιν ὠμίλησα, καὶ οὐ ποτέ μ' οἱ γ' ἀθέριζον.  
οὐ γάρ πω τοίους ἴδον ἀνέρας οὐδὲ ἴδωμαι,  
οἷον Πειρίθοόν τε Δρύαντά τε, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
Καινέα τ' Ἐξάδιόν τε καὶ ἀντίθεον Πολύφημον,  
265 Θησέα τ' Αἰγείδην, ἐπιείκελον ἀθανάτοισιν.<sup>26</sup>  
κάρτιστοι δὴ κείνοι ἐπιχθονίων τράφειν ἀνδρῶν·  
κάρτιστοι μὲν ἔσαν καὶ καρτίστοις ἐμάχοντο,  
φηρσὶν ὀρεσκώοισι, καὶ ἐκπάγλως ἀπόλεσσαν.  
καὶ μὲν τοῖσιν ἐγὼ μεθομίλειον ἐκ Πύλου ἐλθὼν,  
270 τηλόθεν ἐξ ἀπίης γαίης· καλέσαντο γὰρ αὐτοί.  
καὶ μαχόμεν κατ' ἔμ' αὐτὸν ἐγὼ· κείνοισι δ' ἂν οὐ τις  
τῶν οἱ νῦν βροτοὶ εἰσιν ἐπιχθόνιοι μαχέοιτο·  
καὶ μὲν μεν βουλέων ξύνειεν πείθοντό τε μύθῳ.  
ἀλλὰ πίθεσθε καὶ ὑμμες, ἐπεὶ πείθεσθαι ἄμεινον.  
275 μήτε σὺν τόνδ' ἀγαθὸς περ ἐὼν ἀποαίρεο κούρην,  
ἀλλ' ἔα, ὥς οἱ πρῶτα δόσαν γέρας νῆες Ἀχαιῶν·  
μήτε σὺ, Πηλεΐδῃ, ἔθελ' ἐριζέμεναι βασιλῇ  
ἀντιβίην, ἐπεὶ οὐ ποθ' ὁμοίης ἔμμορε τιμῆς  
σκηπτούχος βασιλεύς, ᾧ τε Ζεὺς κῦδος ἔδωκεν.  
280 εἰ δὲ σὺ καρτερός ἐσσι, θεὰ δέ σε γείνατο μήτηρ,  
ἀλλ' ὅδε φέρτερός ἐστιν, ἐπεὶ πλεόνεσσιν ἀνάσσει.

<sup>25</sup> ὑμῖν: ἡμῖν Aristarchus.

<sup>26</sup> Line 265 (= Hesiod, Scut. 182) is omitted in most MSS.



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were to hear all this tale of the strife of you two who surpass all the Danaans in counsel and in fighting. But listen to me; you are both younger than I. For I once joined with warriors who are better men than you, and never did they make light of me. Such warriors have I never since seen, or shall see, as Peirithous was, and Dryas, shepherd of men, and Caeneus, and Exadius, and godlike Polyphemus, and Theseus, son of Aegeus, peer of the immortals. Mightiest were these of all men reared on the earth; mightiest were they, and with the mightiest did they fight, with the centaurs that had their lairs among the mountains, and terribly did they destroy them. With these men I joined, when I had come from Pylos, afar from a distant land; for they themselves summoned me. And I fought as my own man;<sup>1</sup> but with them no man of all mortals that now are on the earth could fight. And they listened to my advice, and heeded my words. In the same way do you also pay heed, for to heed is better. And do not, mighty though you are, seek to take from him the girl, but leave her, just as at the first the sons of the Achaeans gave her to him as a prize; and you, son of Peleus, be not minded to strive with a king, might against might, for it is no common honor that is the portion of a sceptered king to whom Zeus gives glory. Though you are powerful, and a goddess mother bore you, yet he is mightier, since he is king over more. Son

<sup>1</sup> The phrase suggests that Nestor fought independently of the Lapiths, but it may mean no more than that he took part in battle as a *πρόμαχος*, or individual combatant. M.

Ἀτρεΐδῃ, σὺ δὲ παῦε τεὸν μένος· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ γε  
λίσσομ' Ἀχιλλῇι μεθέμεν χόλον, ὃς μέγα πᾶσιν  
ἔρκος Ἀχαιοῖσιν πέλεται πολέμοιο κακοῖο."

285 Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη κρείων Ἀγα-  
μέμνων·

"ναὶ δὴ ταῦτά γε πάντα, γέρον, κατὰ μοῖραν ἔειπες.  
ἀλλ' ὃδ' ἀνὴρ ἐθέλει περὶ πάντων ἔμμεναι ἄλλων,  
πάντων μὲν κρατέειν ἐθέλει, πάντεσσι δ' ἀνάσσειν,  
πᾶσι δὲ σημαίνειν, ἃ τιν' οὐ πείσεσθαι οἶω.

290 εἰ δέ μιν αἰχμητὴν ἔθεσαν θεοὶ αἰὲν ἔόντες,  
τοῦνεκά οἱ προθέουσιν ὀνείδεα μυθήσασθαι;"

Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑποβλήδην ἡμείβετο δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς·  
"ἦ γάρ κεν δειλὸς τε καὶ οὐτιδανὸς καλεοίμην,  
εἰ δὴ σοὶ πᾶν ἔργον ὑπείξομαι ὅττι κεν εἴπῃς.

295 ἄλλοισιν δὴ ταῦτ' ἐπιτέλλεο, μὴ γὰρ ἐμοί γε  
σήμαιν'· οὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ γ' ἔτι σοὶ πείσεσθαι οἶω.<sup>27</sup>  
ἄλλο δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσι·  
χερσὶ μὲν οὐ τοι ἐγὼ γε μαχήσομαι εἵνεκα κούρης  
οὔτε σοὶ οὔτε τῷ ἄλλῳ, ἐπεὶ μ' ἀφέλεσθέ γε δόντες.<sup>28</sup>

300 τῶν δ' ἄλλων ἃ μοί ἐστι θοῇ παρὰ νηὶ μελαίνῃ,  
τῶν οὐκ ἄν τι φέροις ἀνελὼν ἀέκοντος ἐμέϊο.  
εἰ δ' ἄγε μὴν πείρησαι, ἵνα γνῶωσι καὶ οἶδε·  
αἰψά τοι αἶμα κελαινὸν ἐρώησει περὶ δουρί."

Ὡς τῷ γ' ἀντιβίοισι μαχεσσαμένῳ ἐπέεσσιν  
305 ἀνστήτην, λῦσαν δ' ἀγορὴν παρὰ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.  
Πηλεΐδης μὲν ἐπὶ κλισίας καὶ νῆας εἴσας  
ἦε σύν τε Μενoitιάδῃ καὶ οἷς ἐτάροισιν·  
Ἀτρεΐδης δ' ἄρα νῆα θοὴν ἄλαδε προέρυσσεν,

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of Atreus, check your rage; and I beg of you to let go your anger against Achilles, who is for all the Achaeans a mighty bulwark against evil war."

Then in answer to him spoke lord Agamemnon: "Old man, in all this you have surely spoken properly. But this man is minded to be above all others; over all he is minded to hold sway and be king among all, and to all give orders; in which there is one, I think, who will not obey him. If the gods who are forever made him a spearman, is it on that account that his revilings rush forward for utterance?"

Then noble Achilles broke in on him and said: "Yes, for I should be called a coward and a nobody, if I am to yield to you in every matter whatever you say. On others lay these charges, but give no orders to me, for I think I shall obey you no longer. And another thing will I tell you, and do you lay it to heart: by might of hand I will fight for the girl neither with you nor with any other, since you are only taking away what you gave. But of everything else that is mine by my swift black ships you shall lead or carry away nothing against my will. Come on, just try it, so these men here also may know: at once your dark blood will spurt around my spear."

When these two had made an end of contending with violent words, they rose, and broke up the assembly beside the ships of the Achaeans. The son of Peleus went to his huts and his shapely ships together with the son of Menoetius, and with his men; but the son of Atreus launched a

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<sup>27</sup> Line 296 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>28</sup> ἐπεὶ μ' ἀφέλεσθέ γε δόντες: ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἐθέλεις ἀφελέσθαι  
Zenodotus.

- ἐν δ' ἐρέτας ἔκρινεν ἐείκοσιν, ἐς δ' ἐκατόμβην  
 310 βῆσε θεῶ, ἀνὰ δὲ Χρυσηίδα καλλιπάρηον  
 εἶσεν ἄγων· ἐν δ' ἀρχὸς ἔβη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς.  
 Οἱ μὲν ἔπειτ' ἀναβάντες ἐπέπλεον ὕγρὰ κέλευθα,  
 λαοὺς δ' Ἀτρεΐδης ἀπολυμαίνεσθαι ἄνωγεν·  
 οἱ δ' ἀπελυμαίνοντο καὶ εἰς ἄλα λύματα βάλλον,  
 315 ἔρδον δ' Ἀπόλλωνι τεληέσσας ἐκατόμβας  
 ταύρων ἡδ' αἰγῶν παρὰ θῖν' ἀλὸς ἀτρυγέτοιο·  
 κνίσση δ' οὐρανὸν ἵκεν ἐλίσσομένη περὶ καπνῶ.  
 Ὡς οἱ μὲν τὰ πένοντο κατὰ στρατόν· οὐδ' Ἀγα-  
 μέμνων  
 λῆγ' ἔριδος, τὴν πρῶτον ἐπηπείλησ' Ἀχιλῆι,  
 320 ἀλλ' ὅ γε Ταλθύβιόν τε καὶ Εὐρυβάτην προσέειπε,  
 τῷ οἱ ἔσαν κήρυκε καὶ ὀτρηρῷ θεράποντε·  
 “ἔρχεσθον κλισίην Πηληιάδew Ἀχιλῆος·  
 χειρὸς ἐλόντ' ἀγέμεν Βρισηίδα καλλιπάρηον·  
 εἰ δέ κε μὴ δώησιν, ἐγὼ δέ κεν αὐτὸς ἔλωμαι  
 325 ἐλθὼν σὺν πλεόνεσσι· τό οἱ καὶ ῥίγιον ἔσται.”  
 Ὡς εἰπὼν προΐει, κρατερὸν δ' ἐπὶ μῦθον ἔτελλε.  
 τῷ δ' ἀέκοντε βάτην παρὰ θῖν' ἀλὸς ἀτρυγέτοιο,  
 Μυρμιδόνων δ' ἐπὶ τε κλισίας καὶ νῆας ἰκέσθην.  
 τὸν δ' εὔρον παρά τε κλισίῃ καὶ νηὶ μελαίνῃ  
 330 ἦμενον· οὐδ' ἄρα τῷ γε ἰδὼν γήθησεν Ἀχιλλεύς.  
 τῷ μὲν ταρβήσαντε καὶ αἰδομένῳ βασιλῆα  
 στήτην, οὐδέ τί μιν προσεφώνεον οὐδ' ἐρέοντο·  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ ἔγνω ᾗσιν ἐνὶ φρεσὶ φώνησέν τε·  
 “χαίρετε, κήρυκες, Διὸς ἄγγελοι ἡδὲ καὶ ἀνδρῶν,  
 335 ἄσσον ἵτ'· οὐ τί μοι ὕμμες ἐπαίτιοι, ἀλλ' Ἀγαμέμνων,

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swift ship on the sea, and chose twenty rowers for it, and drove on board a hecatomb for the god, and brought the fair-cheeked daughter of Chryses and set her in the ship; and resourceful Odysseus went on board to take command.

So these embarked and sailed over the watery ways; but the son of Atreus ordered the men to purify themselves. And they purified themselves and cast the filth into the sea, and offered to Apollo perfect hecatombs of bulls and goats by the shore of the unresting sea; and the savor of it went up to heaven, eddying amid the smoke.

Thus they were busied throughout the camp; but Agamemnon did not cease from the strife with which he had first threatened Achilles, and he called to Talthybius and Eurybates, who were his heralds and trusty attendants, saying: "Go you two to the hut of Achilles, Peleus' son, and take by the hand the fair-cheeked Briseïs, and bring her here; and if he does not give her, I will go myself with a larger company and take her; that will be even the worse for him."

So saying he sent them on their way, and laid on them a stern command. Unwilling the two of them went along the shore of the unresting sea, and came to the huts and the ships of the Myrmidons. Him they found sitting beside his hut and his black ship; nor was Achilles glad at the sight of them. And they, seized with dread and respecting the king, stood, and neither spoke a word to him, nor questioned him; but he knew in his heart, and spoke, saying: "Greetings, heralds, messengers of Zeus and men, draw near. It is not you who are guilty in my sight, but Agamemnon,

- ὁ σφῶι προΐει Βρισηίδος εἵνεκα κούρης.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε, διογενὲς Πατρόκλεες, ἔξαγε κούρην  
 καὶ σφῶιν δὸς ἄγειν· τῷ δ' αὐτῷ μάρτυροι ἔστων  
 πρὸς τε θεῶν μακάρων πρὸς τε θνητῶν ἀνθρώπων,  
 340 καὶ πρὸς τοῦ βασιλῆος ἀπηνέος, εἴ ποτε δὴ αὖτε  
 χρειῶ ἐμείο γένηται ἀεικέα λοιγὸν ἀμύναι  
 τοῖς ἄλλοις. ἦ γὰρ ὁ γ' ὀλοιῇσι φρεσὶ θύει,  
 οὐδέ τι οἶδε νοῆσαι ἅμα πρόσσω καὶ ὀπίσσω,  
 ὅπως οἱ παρὰ νηυσὶ σοοὶ μαχέοιντο Ἀχαιοί.”
- 345 Ὡς φάτο, Πάτροκλος δὲ φίλῳ ἐπεπείθεθ' ἐταίρῳ,  
 ἐκ δ' ἄγαγε κλισίης Βρισηίδα καλλιπάρηρον,  
 δῶκε δ' ἄγειν· τῷ δ' αὖτις ἵτην παρὰ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.  
 ἦ δ' ἀέκουσ' ἅμα τοῖσι γυνὴ κίεν. αὐτὰρ Ἀχιλλεὺς  
 δακρύσας ἐτάρων ἄφαρ ἔζετο νόσφι λιασθείς,  
 350 θῖν' ἔφ' ἀλὸς πολιῆς, ὀρόων ἐπὶ οἴνοπα<sup>29</sup> πόντον·  
 πολλὰ δὲ μητρὶ φίλῃ ἠρήσατο χεῖρας ὀρεγνύς·<sup>30</sup>  
 “μῆτερ, ἐπεὶ μ' ἔτεκές γε μινυνθάδιόν περ ἑόντα,  
 τιμὴν πέρ μοι ὄφελλεν Ὀλύμπιος ἐγγυαλίζαι  
 Ζεὺς ὑψιβρεμέτης· νῦν δ' οὐδέ με τυτθὸν ἔτισεν·  
 355 ἦ γάρ μ' Ἀτρεΐδης εὐρὺ κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 ἠτίμησεν· ἐλὼν γὰρ ἔχει γέρας, αὐτὸς ἀπούρας.”
- Ὡς φάτο δάκρυ χέων, τοῦ δ' ἔκλυε πότνια μήτηρ  
 ἡμένη ἐν βένθεσσιν ἀλὸς παρὰ πατρὶ γέροντι·  
 καρπαλίμως δ' ἀνέδνυ πολιῆς ἀλὸς ἡγύτ' ὀμίχλῃ,  
 360 καὶ ῥα πάροιθ' αὐτοῖο καθέζετο δάκρυ χέοντος,  
 χειρὶ τέ μιν κατέρεξεν, ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἐκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·

<sup>29</sup> ἐπὶ οἴνοπα: ἐπ' ἀπείρονα Aristarchus.

who sent you for the sake of the girl, Briseïs. But come, Patroclus, sprung from Zeus, bring out the girl, and give her to them to take away. Let these two be witnesses before the blessed gods and mortal men, and before him, that shameless king, if ever in future there is need of me to ward off loathsome destruction from the army. Truly he raves in his destructive mind, and knows not how to look at the same time both before and after, so that his Achaeans might wage war in safety beside their ships."

So he spoke, and Patroclus obeyed his dear comrade, and out from the hut brought the fair-cheeked Briseïs, and gave her to them to lead away. So they went back beside the ships of the Achaeans, and with them, all unwilling, went the woman. But Achilles burst into tears and drew apart from his comrades, and sat down on the shore of the gray sea, looking out over the wine-dark deep; and earnestly he prayed to his dear mother with outstretched hands: "Mother, since you bore me, though to so brief a span of life, honor surely ought the Olympian to have given into my hands, Zeus who thunders on high; but now he has honored me not at all. In fact the son of Atreus, wide-ruling Agamemnon, has done me dishonor; for he has taken away and holds my prize through his own arrogant act."

So he spoke, weeping, and his lady mother heard him, as she sat in the depths of the sea beside the old man, her father. And speedily she came out from the gray sea like a mist, and sat down in front of him as he wept; and she stroked him with her hand, and spoke to him, and called

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<sup>30</sup> ὁρεγνύς: ἀναπτάς Zenodotus.

“τέκνον, τί κλαίεις; τί δέ σε φρένας ἵκετο πένθος;  
ἐξαύδα, μὴ κεῦθε νόω, ἵνα εἶδομεν ἄμφω.”

Τὴν δὲ βαρὺ στενάχων προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς  
Ἀχιλλεύς·

- 365 “οἶσθα. τί ἦ τοι ταῦτα ἰδυίῃ πάντ’ ἀγορεύω;  
ὥχόμεθ’ ἐς Θήβην, ἱερὴν πόλιν Ἡετίωνος,  
τὴν δὲ διεπράθομέν τε καὶ ἥγομεν ἐνθάδε πάντα.  
καὶ τὰ μὲν εὖ δάσσαντο μετὰ σφίσιν υἱες Ἀχαιῶν,  
ἐκ δ’ ἔλον Ἀτρεΐδῃ Χρυσήίδα καλλιπάρηον.
- 370 Χρύσης δ’ αὖθ’ ἱερεὺς ἐκατηβόλου Ἀπόλλωνος  
ἦλθε θεὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων  
λυσόμενός τε θύγατρα φέρων τ’ ἀπερείσι’ ἄποινα,<sup>31</sup>  
στέμματ’ ἔχων ἐν χερσὶν ἐκηβόλου Ἀπόλλωνος  
χρυσέῳ ἀνὰ σκήπτρῳ, καὶ λίσσετο πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς,
- 375 Ἀτρεΐδα δὲ μάλιστα δύω, κοσμήτορε λαῶν.  
ἐνθ’ ἄλλοι μὲν πάντες ἐπενφήμησαν Ἀχαιοὶ  
αἰδεῖσθαι θ’ ἱερῆα καὶ ἀγλαὰ δέχθαι ἄποινα·  
ἀλλ’ οὐκ Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνονι ἥνδανε θυμῷ,  
ἀλλὰ κακῶς ἀφίει, κρατερὸν δ’ ἐπὶ μῦθον ἔτελλε.
- 380 χωόμενος δ’ ὁ γέρων πάλιν ὥχετο· τοῖο δ’ Ἀπόλλων  
εὖξαμένου ἤκουσεν, ἐπεὶ μάλα οἱ φίλος ἦεν,  
ἦκε δ’ ἐπ’ Ἀργείοισι κακὸν βέλος· οἱ δέ νυ λαοὶ  
θνήσκον ἐπασσύτεροι, τὰ δ’ ἐπώχετο κῆλα θεοῖο  
πάντῃ ἀνὰ στρατὸν εὐρὺν Ἀχαιῶν. ἄμμι δὲ μάντις
- 385 εὖ εἰδὼς ἀγόρευε θεοπροπίας ἐκάτοιο.  
αὐτίκ’ ἐγὼ πρῶτος κελόμην θεὸν ἰλάσκεσθαι·  
Ἀτρεΐωνα δ’ ἔπειτα χόλος λάβεν, αἶψα δ’ ἀναστὰς



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him by name: "Child, why do you weep? What sorrow has come upon your heart? Speak out; do not hide it in your mind, so we both may know."

Then groaning heavily spoke to her Achilles, swift of foot: "You know. Why should I tell the tale to you who know everything? We went to Thebes, the sacred city of Eëtion, and sacked it, and brought here all the spoil. This the sons of the Achaeans divided fairly among themselves, but for the son of Atreus they chose out the fair-cheeked daughter of Chryses. Then Chryses, priest of Apollo who strikes from afar, came to the swift ships of the bronze-clad Achaeans, to win freedom for his daughter, and he brought ransom past counting, holding in his hands on a staff of gold the ribbons of Apollo who strikes from afar, and he implored all the Achaeans, but most of all the two sons of Atreus, the marshalers of the armies. Then all the other Achaeans shouted their agreement, to respect the priest and accept the glorious ransom, yet this did not please the heart of Agamemnon, son of Atreus, but he sent him away harshly, and laid on him a stern command. So the old man went back again in wrath; and Apollo heard his prayer, for he was very dear to him, and sent against the Argives an evil arrow. Then the men began to die thick and fast, and the shafts of the god ranged everywhere throughout the wide camp of the Achaeans. But to us the prophet with sure knowledge declared the oracles of the god who strikes afar. At once I was the first to urge them to propitiate the god, but then wrath laid hold of the son of Atreus, and

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<sup>31</sup> Lines 372-379 (= 13-16, 22-25) were rejected by Aristarchus.

- ἠπείλησεν μῦθον, ὃ δὴ τετελεσμένος ἐστί·  
 τὴν μὲν γὰρ σὺν νηὶ θοῇ ἐλίκωπες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 390 ἐς Χρύσην πέμπουσιν, ἄγουσι δὲ δῶρα ἄνακτι·  
 τὴν δὲ νέον κλισίηθεν ἔβαν κήρυκες ἄγοντες  
 κούρην Βρισηῆος, τὴν μοι δόσαν υἱες Ἀχαιῶν.  
 ἀλλὰ σύ, εἰ δύνασάι γε, περισχέο παιδὸς ἐοῖο.<sup>32</sup>  
 ἐλθοῦς· Οὐλύμπόνδε Δία λίσαι, εἴ ποτε δή τι  
 395 ἦ ἔπει ὦνησας κραδίην Διὸς ἦε καὶ ἔργῳ.  
 πολλάκι γάρ σεο πατὴρ ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἄκουσα<sup>33</sup>  
 εὐχομένης, ὅτ' ἔφησθα κελαινεφεί Κρονίωνι  
 οἷη ἐν ἀθανάτοισιν ἀεικέα λοιγὸν ἀμύναι,  
 ὁππότε μιν ξυνδῆσαι Ὀλύμπιοι ἤθελον ἄλλοι,  
 400 Ἥρη τ' ἠδὲ Ποσειδάων καὶ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη.<sup>34</sup>  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ τὸν γ' ἐλθοῦσα, θεά, ὑπελύσαο δεσμῶν,  
 ὧχ' ἐκατόγχειρον καλέσας· ἐς μακρὸν Ὀλυμπον,  
 ὃν Βριάρεων καλέουσι θεοί, ἄνδρες δέ τε πάντες  
 Αἰγαίων· ὃ γὰρ αὖτε βίῃ οὐ πατὴρ ἀμείνων·  
 405 ὅς ῥα παρὰ Κρονίωνι καθέζετο κύδεϊ γαίων·  
 τὸν καὶ ὑπέδδειςαν μάκαρες θεοὶ οὐδέ τ' ἔδησαν.  
 τῶν νῦν μιν μνήσασα παρέζεο καὶ λαβὲ γούνων,  
 αἳ κέν πως ἐθέλῃσιν ἐπὶ Τρώεσσιν ἀρῆξαι,  
 τοὺς δὲ κατὰ πρύμνας τε καὶ ἀμφ' ἄλα ἔλσαι Ἀχαιοὺς  
 410 κτεινομένους, ἵνα πάντες ἐπαύρωνται βασιλῆος,  
 γυνῶ δὲ καὶ Ἀτρεΐδης εὐρὺν κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 ἦν ἄτην, ὃ τ' ἄριστον Ἀχαιῶν οὐδὲν ἔτισεν.”

<sup>32</sup> ἐοῖο: ἐῆος.

<sup>33</sup> Lines 396–406 were rejected by Zenodotus.

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quickly he stood up and made a threat which has now come to pass. For the bright-eyed Achaeans are taking the one girl in a swift ship to Chryse, and are bearing gifts to the god; while heralds have just now taken the other girl from my hut and led her away, the daughter of Briseus, whom the sons of the Achaeans gave me. But you, if you have the power, come to your son's aid; go to Olympus and beg Zeus, if ever you have gladdened his heart by word or deed. Often I have heard you boasting in the halls of my father, and declaring that you alone among the immortals warded off loathsome destruction from the son of Cronos, lord of the dark clouds, on the day when the other Olympians were minded to put him in bonds, Hera and Poseidon and Pallas Athene. But you came, goddess, and freed him from his bonds, when you had quickly called to high Olympus him of the hundred hands, whom the gods call Briareus, but all men Aegaeon; for he is mightier than his father.<sup>2</sup> He sat down by the side of the son of Cronos, exulting in his glory, and the blessed gods were seized with fear of him, and did not bind Zeus. Remind him now of this and sit by his side and clasp his knees, in the hope that he may be minded to help the Trojans, and to pen in those others, the Achaeans, among the sterns of their ships and around the sea as they are killed, so that they may all have profit of their king, and the son of Atreus, wide-ruling Agamemnon, may know his blindness in that he honored the best of the Achaeans not at all."

<sup>2</sup> His father was Poseidon. M.

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<sup>34</sup> Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη: Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων Zenodotus.

- Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Θέτις κατὰ δάκρυ χέουσα·  
 “ὦ μοι τέκνον ἐμόν, τί νύ σ' ἔτρεφον αἰνὰ τεκοῦσα;  
 415 αἶθ' ὄφελες παρὰ νηυσὶν ἀδάκρυτος καὶ ἀπήμων  
 ἦσθαι, ἐπεὶ νύ τοι αἶσα μίννυνθά περ, οὔ τι μάλα δὴν·  
 νῦν δ' ἅμα τ' ὠκύμορος καὶ οἰζυρὸς περὶ πάντων  
 ἔπλεο· τῷ σε κακῇ αἴσῃ τέκον ἐν μεγάροισι.  
 τοῦτο δέ τοι ἐρέουσα ἔπος Διὶ τερπικεραύνῳ  
 420 εἶμ' αὐτὴ πρὸς Ὀλυμπον ἀγάννιφον, αἶ κε πίθεται.  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν νῦν νηυσὶ παρήμενος ὠκυτόροισι  
 μήνι' Ἀχαιοῖσιν, πολέμου δ' ἀποπαύεο πάμπαν·  
 Ζεὺς γὰρ ἐς Ὀκεανὸν μετ' ἀμύμονας Αἰθιοπῆας  
 χθιζὸς ἔβη κατὰ δαῖτα, θεοὶ δ' ἅμα πάντες ἔποντο.<sup>35</sup>  
 425 δωδεκάτῃ δέ τοι αὖτις ἐλεύσεται Οὐλύμπόνδε,  
 καὶ τότ' ἔπειτά τοι εἶμι Διὸς ποτὶ χαλκοβατὲς δῶ,  
 καί μιν γουνάσομαι καί μιν πείσεσθαι οἴω.”  
 Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας' ἀπεβήσετο, τὸν δὲ λίπ' αὐτοῦ  
 χώμενον κατὰ θυμὸν ἐνζώνοιο γυναικός,  
 430 τὴν ῥα βίῃ ἀέκοντος ἀπηύρων· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς  
 ἐς Χρύσην ἵκανεν ἄγων ἱερὴν ἑκατόμβην.  
 οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ λιμένος πολυβενθέος ἐντὸς<sup>36</sup> ἵκοντο,  
 ἰστία μὲν στείλαντο, θέσαν δ' ἐν νηὶ μελαίνῃ,  
 ἰστὸν δ' ἰστοδόκῃ πέλασαν προτόνοισιν ὑφέντες  
 435 καρπαλίμως, τὴν δ' εἰς ὄρμον προέρεσαν ἐρετμοῖς.  
 ἐκ δ' εὐνὰς ἔβαλον, κατὰ δὲ πρυμνήσι' ἔδησαν·  
 ἐκ δὲ καὶ αὐτοὶ βαῖνον ἐπὶ ῥηγμῖνι θαλάσσης,  
 ἐκ δ' ἑκατόμβην βῆσαν ἐκηβόλῳ Ἀπόλλωνι·

<sup>35</sup> ἔποντο: ἔπονται Aristarchus.

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Then, shedding tears, Thetis answered him: "Alas, my child, why did I rear you, cursed in my child-bearing? If only it had been your lot to stay by your ships without tears and without grief, since your span of life is brief and will not last long; but now you are doomed to a speedy death and are unfortunate above all men; therefore it was for an evil fate that I bore you in our halls. Yet to tell what you have said to Zeus who hurls the thunderbolt I will go myself to snowy Olympus, in the hope that he will listen. But you, sitting by your swift seafaring ships, continue your wrath against the Achaeans and refrain entirely from battle; for Zeus went yesterday for a feast to the incomparable Ethiopians at the Ocean, and all the gods followed with him; but on the twelfth day he will come back again to Olympus, and then I will go to the house of Zeus with its threshold of bronze, and will clasp his knees, and I think I will persuade him."

So saying she went away and left him where he was, angry at heart because of the fair-girdled woman whom they had taken from him by force against his will; and meanwhile Odysseus reached Chryse bringing the holy hecatomb. When they had entered the deep harbor, they furled the sail, and stowed it in the black ship, and the mast they lowered by the forestays and brought it to the crutch quickly, and rowed with oars to the place of anchorage. Then they threw out the mooring stones and fastened the stern cables, and themselves stepped out on the shore of the sea. Out they brought the hecatomb for Apollo, who

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<sup>36</sup> ἐντὸς: ἐγγὺς Aristarchus.

ἐκ δὲ Χρυσηῖς νηὸς βῆ ποντοπόροιο.

- 440 τὴν μὲν ἔπειτ' ἐπὶ βωμὸν ἄγων πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεὺς  
πατρὶ φίλῳ ἐν χερσὶ τίθει, καὶ μιν προσέειπεν·  
“ὦ Χρῦση, πρό μ' ἔπεμψεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων  
παῖδά τε σοὶ ἀγέμεν, Φοῖβῳ θ' ἱερὴν ἐκατόμβην  
ῥέξαι ὑπὲρ Δαναῶν, ὅφρ' ἱλασόμεσθα ἄνακτα,<sup>37</sup>  
445 ὃς νῦν Ἀργείοισι πολύστονα κήδε' ἐφῆκεν.”

- “Ὡς εἰπὼν ἐν χερσὶ τίθει, ὁ δὲ δέξατο χαίρων<sup>38</sup>  
παῖδα φίλην· τοὶ δ' ὦκα θεῷ ἱερὴν<sup>39</sup> ἐκατόμβην  
ἐξείης ἔστησαν εὐδμητον περὶ βωμόν,  
χερνύσαντο δ' ἔπειτα καὶ οὐλοχύτας ἀνέλοντο.  
450 τοῖσιν δὲ Χρῦσης μεγάλ' εὐχετο χεῖρας ἀνασχών·  
“κλῦθί μεν, ἀργυρότοξ', ὃς Χρῦσῃν ἀμφιβέβηκας  
Κίλλαν τε ζαθέην Τενέδοιό τε ἱφι ἀνάσσεις·  
ἦδη μὲν ποτ' ἐμεῦ πάρος ἔκλυες εὐξαμένοιο,  
τίμησας μὲν ἐμέ, μέγα δ' ἵψαο λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν·  
455 ἦδ' ἔτι καὶ νῦν μοι τόδ' ἐπικρήνηνον ἐέλδωρ·  
ἦδη νῦν Δαναοῖσιν ἀεικέα λοιγὸν ἄμνον.”

“Ὡς ἔφατ' εὐχόμενος, τοῦ δ' ἔκλυε Φοῖβος Ἀπόλ-  
λων.

- αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' εὗξαντο καὶ οὐλοχύτας προβάλοντο,  
ἀνέρυσαν μὲν πρῶτα καὶ ἔσφαξαν καὶ ἔδειραν,  
460 μηρούς τ' ἐξέταμον κατὰ τε κνίσῃ ἐκάλυσαν  
δίπτυχα ποιήσαντες, ἐπ' αὐτῶν δ' ὤμοθέτησαν.  
καίῃ δ' ἐπὶ σχίζῃς ὁ γέρων, ἐπὶ δ' αἶθοπα οἶνον  
λεῖβε· νέοι δὲ παρ' αὐτὸν ἔχον πεμπώβολα χερσίν.

<sup>37</sup> Line 444 was rejected by Aristarchus.

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strikes from afar, and out stepped also the daughter of Chryses from the seafaring ship. Then resourceful Odysseus led her to the altar, and placed her in the arms of her dear father, saying to him: "Chryses, Agamemnon, lord of men, sent me out to bring you your daughter, and to offer to Phoebus a holy hecatomb on behalf of the Danaans, so that with it we may propitiate the lord Apollo, who has now brought on the Argives woes and lamentation."

So saying he placed her in his arms, and he joyfully took his dear child; but they quickly set in array for the god the holy hecatomb around the well-built altar, and then washed their hands and took up the barley grains. Then Chryses lifted up his hands, and prayed aloud for them: "Hear me, god of the silver bow, you who have Chryse and sacred Cilla under your protection, and rule mightily over Tenedos. Just as you heard me when I prayed before—you honored me, and mightily struck the army of the Achaeans—so now also fulfill for me this wish: now ward off the loathsome destruction from the Danaans."

So he spoke in prayer, and Phoebus Apollo heard him. Then, when they had prayed, and had sprinkled the barley grains, they first drew back the victims' heads, and cut their throats, and flayed them, and cut out the thigh pieces and enclosed them inside layers of fat, and laid raw flesh on them. And the old man burned them on billets of wood, and poured a libation of ruddy wine over them; and beside him the young men held in their hands the five-pronged

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<sup>38</sup> For lines 446 f. Zenodotus read,

*ὦς εἰπὼν (εἶπεν?) τοὶ δ' ὦκα θεῷ ἱερὴν ἑκατόμβην*

<sup>39</sup> *ἱερὴν: κλειτὴν.*

- αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κατὰ μῆρ' ἐκάη καὶ σπλάγχχν' ἐπάσαντο,  
 465 μίστυλλον τ' ἄρα τᾶλλα καὶ ἀμφ' ὀβελοῖσιν ἔπειραν,  
 ὥπτησάν τε περιφραδέως, ἐρύσαντό τε πάντα.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ παύσαντο πόνου τετύκοντό τε δαῖτα,  
 δαίνυντ', οὐδέ τι θυμὸς ἐδεύετο δαιτὸς εἴσης.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,  
 470 κούροι μὲν κρητῆρας ἐπεστέψαντο ποτοῖο,  
 νώμησαν δ' ἄρα πᾶσιν ἐπαρξάμενοι δεπάεσσιν·  
 οἱ δὲ πανημέριοι μολπῇ θεὸν ἰλάσκοντο,  
 καλὸν αἰείδοντες παιήονα, κούροι Ἀχαιῶν,  
 μέλποντες ἐκάεργον· ὁ δὲ φρένα τέρπετ' ἀκούων.<sup>40</sup>  
 475 Ἥμος δ' ἠέλιος κατέδυν καὶ ἐπὶ κνέφας ἦλθε,  
 δῆ τότε κοιμήσαντο παρὰ πρυμνήσια νηὸς·  
 ἦμος δ' ἠριγένεια φάνη ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἥως,  
 καὶ τότε ἔπειτ' ἀνάγοντο μετὰ στρατὸν εὐρὺν Ἀχαιῶν·  
 τοῖσιν δ' ἵκμενον οὔρον ἶει ἐκάεργος Ἀπόλλων·  
 480 οἱ δ' ἱστὸν στήσαντ' ἀνά θ' ἱστίᾳ λευκὰ πέτασσαν,  
 ἐν δ' ἄνεμος πρῆσεν μέσον ἱστίον, ἀμφὶ δὲ κῦμα  
 στεῖρην πορφύρεον μεγάλ' ἴαχε νηὸς ἰούσης·  
 ἢ δ' ἔθεεν κατὰ κῦμα διαπρήσσουσα κέλευθον.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἵκοντο κατὰ στρατὸν εὐρὺν Ἀχαιῶν,  
 485 νῆα μὲν οἷ γε μέλαιναν ἐπ' ἠπείροιο ἔρυσσαν  
 ὑψοῦ ἐπὶ ψαμάθοις, ὑπὸ δ' ἔρματα μακρὰ τάνυσσαν,  
 αὐτοὶ δὲ σκίδναντο κατὰ κλισίας τε νέας τε.  
 Αὐτὰρ ὁ μῆνι νηυσὶ παρήμενος ὠκυπόροισι<sup>41</sup>  
 διογενὴς Πηλῆος υἱός, πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλλεύς·  
 490 οὔτε ποτ' εἰς ἀγορὴν πωλέσκετο κυδιάνειραν



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forks. But when the thigh pieces were wholly burned, and they had tasted the inner parts, they cut up the rest into pieces and spitted them, and roasted them carefully, and drew them all off. Then, when they had ceased from their labor and had made ready the meal, they feasted, nor did their hearts lack anything of the equal banquet. But when they had put from them the desire for food and drink, the youths filled the bowls brim full of drink and served it to all, first pouring drops for libation into the cups. So the whole day long the sons of the Achaeans sought to appease the god with song, singing the beautiful paeon, hymning the god who works from afar; and his heart was glad as he heard.

But when the sun set and darkness came on, they lay down to rest by the stern cables of the ship, and as soon as early dawn appeared, the rosy-fingered, then they set sail for the wide camp of the Achaeans. And Apollo, who works from afar, sent them a favoring wind, and they set up the mast and spread the white sail. So the wind filled the belly of the sail, and the dark wave sang loudly about the stem of the ship as it went, and it sped over the waves, accomplishing its way. But when they had come to the wide camp of the Achaeans, they drew the black ship up on the shore, high on the sands, and set in line the long props beneath it, and themselves scattered among the huts and ships.

But he raged as he sat beside his swift-faring ships, the heaven-sprung son of Peleus, Achilles, swift of foot. Never did he go to the place of assembly, where men win glory,

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<sup>40</sup> Line 474 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>41</sup> Lines 488–492 were rejected by Zenodotus.

οὔτε ποτ' ἐς πόλεμον, ἀλλὰ φθινύθεσκε φίλον κῆρ  
αὐθι μένων, ποθέεσκε δ' αὐτὴν τε πτόλεμόν τε.

- Ἄλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἐκ τοῖο δυωδεκάτῃ γένητ' ἡώς,  
καὶ τότε δὴ πρὸς Ὀλυμπον ἴσαν θεοὶ αἰὲν εἶοντες  
495 πάντες ἅμα, Ζεὺς δ' ἦρχε. Θέτις δ' οὐ λήθετ' ἐφετμέων  
παιδὸς ἐοῦ, ἀλλ' ἢ γ' ἀνεδύσετο κύμα θαλάσσης,  
ἡερίῃ δ' ἀνέβη μέγαν οὐρανὸν Οὐλυμπόν τε.  
εὗρεν δ' εὐρύοπα Κρονίδην ἄτερ ἡμενον ἄλλων  
ἀκροτάτῃ κορυφῇ πολυδειράδος Οὐλύμποιο·  
500 καὶ ῥα πάροιθ' αὐτοῖο καθέζετο, καὶ λάβε γούνων  
σκαιῇ, δεξιτερῇ δ' ἄρ' ὑπ' ἀνθερεῶνος ἐλοῦσα  
λισσομένη προσέειπε Δία Κρονίωνα ἄνακτα·  
“Ζεῦ πάτερ, εἴ ποτε δὴ σε μετ' ἀθανάτοισιν ὄνησα  
ἢ ἔπει ἢ ἔργω, τόδε μοι κρήνην ἐέλδωρ·  
505 τίμησόν μοι νιόν, ὃς ὠκυμορώτατος ἄλλων  
ἔπλετ'· ἀτάρ μιν νῦν γε ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων  
ἠτίμησεν· ἐλὼν γὰρ ἔχει γέρας, αὐτὸς ἀπούρας.  
ἀλλὰ σύ πέρ μιν τίσον, Ὀλύμπιε μητίετα Ζεῦ·  
τόφρα δ' ἐπὶ Τρώεσσι τίθει κράτος, ὄφρ' ἂν Ἀχαιοὶ  
510 νιὸν ἐμὸν τίσωσιν ὀφέλλωσιν τέ ἐ τιμῇ.”

- “Ὡς φάτο· τὴν δ' οὔ τι προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς,  
ἀλλ' ἀκέων δὴν ἦστο· Θέτις δ' ὥς ἤψατο γούνων,  
ὥς ἔχετ' ἐμπεφυυῖα, καὶ εἵρετο δεύτερον αὐτῆς·  
“νημερτὲς μὲν δὴ μοι ὑπόσχεο καὶ κατάνενσον,  
515 ἢ ἀποίεπ', ἐπεὶ οὔ τοι ἔπι δέος, ὄφρ' ἐν εἰδέω  
ὅσσον ἐγὼ μετὰ πᾶσιν ἀτιμοτάτῃ θεὸς εἰμι.”

Τὴν δὲ μέγ' ὀχθήσας προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς·  
“ἦ δὴ λοίγια ἔργ' ὃ τέ μ' ἐχθοδοπῆσαι ἐφήσεις

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nor ever to war, but allowed his heart to waste away, as he remained there; and he longed for the war cry and battle.

Now when the twelfth dawn after this had come, then to Olympus came the gods who are forever, all in one company, and Zeus led the way. And Thetis did not forget her son's charge, but rose up from the wave of the sea, and early in the morning mounted up to great heaven and Olympus. There she found the son of Cronos, whose voice resounds afar, as he sat apart from the rest on the topmost peak of many-ridged Olympus. So she sat down in front of him, and laid hold of his knees with her left hand, while with her right she clasped him beneath the chin, and she spoke begging lord Zeus, son of Cronos: "Father Zeus, if ever among the immortals I aided you by word or deed, fulfill for me this wish: do honor to my son, who is doomed to a speedy death beyond all other men; but now has Agamemnon, lord of men, put dishonor on him, for he has taken and keeps his prize by his own arrogant act. But do you show him honor, Olympian Zeus, lord of counsel; just so long give might to the Trojans, but only until the Achaeans show respect to my son and honor him by making amends."

So she spoke; but Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, spoke not a word to her, but sat long in silence. Yet Thetis, just as she had clasped his knees, so she held on to him, clinging close, and asked him again a second time: "Promise me now this thing without fail, and bow your head to it, or else deny me—for there is nothing to make you afraid—so that I may know well how far I am the least honored among the gods."

Then, greatly troubled, Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, spoke to her: "Surely there will be sorry work here, since you will

Ἥρη, ὅτ' ἂν μ' ἐρέθῃσιν ὄνειδείοις ἐπέεσσιν.  
 520 ἢ δὲ καὶ αὐτως μ' αἰεὶ ἐν ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖσι  
 νεικεῖ, καὶ τέ μέ φησι μάχῃ Τρώεσσιν ἀρήγειν.  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν νῦν αὖτις ἀπόστιχε, μή τι<sup>42</sup> νοήσῃ  
 Ἥρη· ἐμοὶ δέ κε ταῦτα μελήσεται, ὅφρα τελέσω.  
 εἰ δ' ἄγε τοι κεφαλῇ κατανεύσομαι, ὅφρα πεποιίθῃς·  
 525 τοῦτο γὰρ ἐξ ἐμέθεν γε μετ' ἀθανάτοισι μέγιστον  
 τέκμωρ· οὐ γὰρ ἐμὸν παλινάγρετον οὐδ' ἀπατηλὸν  
 οὐδ' ἀτελεύτητον, ὃ τί κεν κεφαλῇ κατανεύσω.”

Ἥη καὶ κυανέησιν ἐπ' ὀφρύσι νεῦσε Κρονίων·  
 ἀμβρόσιαι δ' ἄρα χαῖται ἐπερρώσαντο ἄνακτος  
 530 κρατὸς ἀπ' ἀθανάτοιο· μέγαν δ' ἐλέλιξεν Ὀλύμπου.

Τῷ γ' ὥς βουλεύσαντε διέτμαγεν· ἡ μὲν ἔπειτα  
 εἰς ἄλλα ἄλτο βαθεῖαν ἀπ' αἰγλήεντος Ὀλύμπου,  
 Ζεὺς δὲ ἐὼν πρὸς δῶμα· θεοὶ δ' ἅμα πάντες ἀνέστην  
 ἐξ ἐδέων σφοῦ πατρὸς ἐναντίον· οὐδέ τις ἔτλη  
 535 μέιναι ἐπερχόμενον, ἀλλ' ἀντίοι ἔσταν ἅπαντες.  
 ὥς ὁ μὲν ἔνθα καθέζετ' ἐπὶ θρόνου· οὐδέ μιν Ἥρη  
 ἡγνοίησεν ἰδοῦσ' ὅτι οἱ συμφράσσατο βουλὰς  
 ἀργυρόπεζα Θέτις, θυγάτηρ Ἀλίοιο γέροντος.  
 αὐτίκα κερτομίοισι Δία Κρονίωνα προσηύδα·  
 540 “τίς δὴ αὖ τοι, δολομῆτα, θεῶν συμφράσσατο βουλὰς;  
 αἰεὶ τοι φίλον ἐστὶν ἐμεῦ ἀπονόσφιν ἐόντα  
 κρυπτάδια φρονέοντα δικαζέμεν· οὐδέ τί πώ μοι  
 πρόφρων τέτληκας εἰπεῖν ἔπος ὅττι νοήσῃς.”

Τὴν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα πατὴρ ἀνδρῶν τε θεῶν τε·

<sup>42</sup> τι Aristarchus: σσε MSS.

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involve me in strife with Hera, when she angers me with taunting words. As it is she constantly reproaches me among the immortal gods, and says that I aid the Trojans in the fighting. But now go back again, in case Hera notices something; and I will take thought to bring these things to pass. Come now, I will bow my head to you, so that you may be certain, for this from me is the surest token among the immortals; no word of mine may be recalled, nor is false, nor unfulfilled, once I bow my head to it."

The son of Cronos spoke, and bowed his dark brow in assent, and the ambrosial locks shook on the king's immortal head; and he made great Olympus quake.

When the two had taken counsel together in this way, they parted; she leapt into the deep sea from gleaming Olympus, and Zeus went to his palace. All the gods together rose from their seats in deference to their father; nor did any dare to remain seated at his coming, but they all rose up to greet him. So he sat down on his throne; but Hera saw, and did not fail to notice that silver-footed Thetis, daughter of the old man of the sea, had taken counsel with him. At once then she spoke to Zeus, son of Cronos, with mocking words: "Who of the gods, crafty one, has been taking counsel with you? Always it is your pleasure to hold aloof from me, and to give judgments which you have pondered in secret, nor have you ever undertaken readily to declare to me the purpose in your mind."

Then made answer to her the father of men and gods:

- 545 “Ἡρῃ, μὴ δὴ πάντας ἐμοὺς ἐπιέλπεο μύθους  
 εἰδῆσιν· χαλεποὶ τοι ἔσονται ἀλόχῳ περ ἐούσῃ·  
 ἀλλ’ ὃν μὲν κ’ ἐπιεικὲς ἀκουέμεν, οὗ τις ἔπειτα  
 οὔτε θεῶν πρότερος τόν γ’ εἴσεται οὔτ’ ἀνθρώπων·  
 ὃν δέ κ’ ἐγὼν ἀπάνευθε θεῶν ἐθέλωμι νοῆσαι,  
 550 μὴ τι σὺ ταῦτα ἕκαστα διεῖρεο μηδὲ μετάλλα.”  
 Τὸν δ’ ἡμείβετ’ ἔπειτα βοῶπις πότνια Ἥρῃ·  
 “αἰνότατε Κρονίδη, ποῖον τὸν μῦθον ἔειπες;  
 καὶ λῖν σε πάρος γ’ οὔτ’ εἶρομαι οὔτε μεταλλῶ,  
 ἀλλὰ μάλ’ εὐκηλος τὰ φράζειαι ἄσσα θέλησθα.  
 555 νῦν δ’ αἰνῶς δείδοικα κατὰ φρένα μὴ σε παρείπη  
 ἀργυρόπεζα Θέτις, θυγάτηρ ἀλίοιο γέροντος·  
 ἡερίη γὰρ σοί γε παρέζετο καὶ λάβε γούνων·  
 τῇ σ’ οἶω κατανεῦσαι ἐτήτυμον ὥς Ἀχιλλῆα  
 τιμήσης, ὀλέσης δὲ πολέας ἐπὶ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.”  
 560 Τὴν δ’ ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα  
 Ζεὺς·  
 “δαιμονίη, αἰεὶ μὲν οἶεαι, οὐδέ σε λήθω·  
 πρῆξαι δ’ ἔμπης οὔ τι δυνήσεται, ἀλλ’ ἀπὸ θυμοῦ  
 μᾶλλον ἐμοὶ ἔσεται· τὸ δέ τοι καὶ ρίγιον ἔσται.  
 εἰ δ’ οὕτω τοῦτ’ ἐστίν, ἐμοὶ μέλλει φίλον εἶναι.  
 565 ἀλλ’ ἀκέουσα κάθησο, ἐμῷ δ’ ἐπιπείθεο μύθῳ,  
 μὴ νύ τοι οὐ χραίσμωσιν ὅσοι θεοὶ εἰς’ ἐν Ὀλύμπῳ  
 ἄσσοι ἰόνθ’, ὅτε κέν τοι ἀάπτους χεῖρας ἐφείω.”  
 Ὡς ἔφατ’, ἔδδεισεν δὲ βοῶπις πότνια Ἥρῃ,

"Hera, do not hope to know all my words: *h*ard will they prove for you, though you are my wife. Whatever it is fitting that you should hear, this no other, whether of gods or of men, will know before you; but what I plan to do without consulting the gods, about all this do not in any way make question, or ask."

Then made answer to him the ox-eyed, queenly Hera: "Most dread son of Cronos, what a word you have said! Never in the past have I asked you or made question, but at your ease you consider all things you wish. But now I am terribly afraid at heart that silver-footed Thetis, daughter of the old man of the sea, has won you over; for at early dawn she sat by you and clasped your knees. To her, I imagine, you bowed your head in sure token that you will honor Achilles, and cause the death of many beside the ships of the Achaeans."

Then in answer to her spoke Zeus, the cloud-gatherer: "You are incredible!<sup>3</sup> You are for ever imagining, and I can keep nothing secret from you; yet you will not be able to accomplish anything, but will be the further from my heart; and that will be the worse for you. If this thing is as you say, then it must be my pleasure. But sit down and be quiet, and obey my words, lest all the gods who are in Olympus be unable to protect you against my coming when I lay irresistible hands on you."

He spoke, and ox-eyed, queenly Hera was seized with

<sup>3</sup> The word *δαιμόνιος* properly means "under the influence of a *δαίμων* (divinity)." It is used in the vocative in cases where the person addressed is acting in some unaccountable or ill-omened way. Hence the tone varies from angry remonstrance to gentle expostulation, or even pity. M.

- καί ρ' ἀκέουσα καθήστο, ἐπιγνάμψασα φίλον κῆρ.  
 570 ὄχθησαν δ' ἀνὰ δῶμα Διὸς θεοὶ Οὐρανίῳνες·  
 τοῖσιν δ' Ἥφαιστος κλυτοτέχνης ἦρχ' ἀγορεύειν,  
 μητρὶ φίλῃ ἐπὶ ἦρα φέρων, λευκωλένῳ Ἥρῃ·  
 “ἦ δὴ λοίγια ἔργα τάδ' ἔσσεται οὐδ' ἔτ' ἀνεκτά,  
 εἰ δὴ σφῶ ἔνεκα θνητῶν ἐριδαίνετον ὧδε,  
 575 ἐν δὲ θεοῖσι κολῶν ἐλαύνετον· οὐδέ τι δαιτὸς  
 ἐσθλῆς ἔσσεται ἦδος, ἐπεὶ τὰ χερεῖονα νικᾷ.  
 μητρὶ δ' ἐγὼ παράφημι, καὶ αὐτῇ περ νοεούσῃ,  
 πατρὶ φίλῳ ἐπὶ ἦρα φέρειν Δίί, ὄφρα μὴ αὐτε  
 νεικεῖησι πατήρ, σὺν δ' ἡμῖν δαῖτα τaráξῃ.  
 580 εἴ περ γάρ κ' ἐθέλῃσιν Ὀλύμπιος ἀστεροπητῆς  
 ἐξ ἐδέων στυφελίζαι· ὁ γὰρ πολὺ φέρτατός ἐστιν.  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ τόν γ' ἐπέεσσι καθάπτεσθαι μαλακοῖσιν·  
 αὐτίκ' ἔπειθ' ἵλαος Ὀλύμπιος ἔσσεται ἡμῖν.”  
 Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, καὶ ἀναΐξας δέπας ἀμφικύπελλον  
 585 μητρὶ φίλῃ ἐν χειρὶ τίθει, καὶ μιν προσέειπε·  
 “τέτλαθι, μῆτερ ἐμή, καὶ ἀνάσχεο κηδομένη περ,  
 μή σε φίλῃν περ εἴουσιν ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἰδῶμαι  
 θεινομένην, τότε δ' οὐ τι δυνήσομαι ἀχνύμενός περ  
 χραισμεῖν· ἀργαλέος γὰρ Ὀλύμπιος ἀντιφέρεσθαι.  
 590 ἦδη γάρ με καὶ ἄλλοτ' ἀλεξέμεναι μεμαῶτα  
 ῥῦψε ποδὸς τεταγὼν ἀπὸ βηλοῦ θεσπεσίῳιο,  
 πᾶν δ' ἡμᾶρ φερόμην, ἅμα δ' ἡελίῳ καταδύντι  
 κάππεσον ἐν Λήμνῳ, ὀλίγος δ' ἔτι θυμὸς ἐνῆεν·  
 ἔνθα με Σίντιες ἄνδρες ἄφαρ κομίσαντο πεσόντα.”  
 595 Ὡς φάτο, μεῖδῃσεν δὲ θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρῃ,  
 μειδήσασα δὲ παιδὸς ἐδέξατο χειρὶ κύπελλον·



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fear, and sat down in silence, curbing her heart. Then the gods of heaven throughout the palace of Zeus were troubled, and among them Hephaestus, the famed craftsman, was first to speak, trying to calm his dear mother, white-armed Hera: "There will be sorry work here indeed and no longer to be borne, if you two are to wrangle like this for mortals' sakes, and set the gods in tumult; nor will there be any joy in the excellent feast, since evil prevails. And I advise my mother, though she understands this herself, to show favor to our dear father Zeus, so that the father may not upbraid her again and bring confusion to our feast. What if the Olympian, the lord of the lightning, were minded to dash us from our seats! For he is mightiest by far. But engage him with gentle words; then at once the Olympian will be gracious to us."

So saying, he sprang up and placed in his dear mother's hand the two-handled cup, and spoke to her: "Bear up, mother, and endure for all your grief, lest, dear as you are to me, I see you being beaten before my eyes, and then I shall in no way be able to help you for all my sorrow; for a hard foe is the Olympian to meet in strife. For another time before this, when I was eager to save you, he caught me by the foot and hurled me from the heavenly threshold; the whole day long I was borne headlong, and at sunset I fell in Lemnos, and but little life was left in me. There the Sintian people promptly took care of me after my fall."

So he spoke, and the goddess, white-armed Hera, smiled, and smiling took the cup in her hand from her son.

- αὐτὰρ ὁ τοῖς ἄλλοισι θεοῖς ἐνδέξια πᾶσιν  
 οἶνοχόει γλυκὺν νέκταρ ἀπὸ κρητῆρος ἀφύσσω.  
 ἄσβεστος δ' ἄρ' ἐνῶρτο γέλως μακάρεσσι θεοῖσιν,  
 600 ὥς ἴδον Ἥφαιστον διὰ δώματα ποιπνύοντα.  
 Ὡς τότε μὲν πρόπαν ἦμαρ ἐς ἥλιον καταδύντα  
 δαίνυντ', οὐδέ τι θυμὸς ἐδεύετο δαιτὸς εἴσης,  
 οὐ μὲν φόρμιγγος περικαλλέος, ἣν ἔχ' Ἀπόλλων,  
 Μουσάων θ', αἱ ἄειδον ἀμειβόμεναι ὀπὶ καλῇ.  
 605 Αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κατέδυ λαμπρὸν φάος ἡελίοιο,  
 οἱ μὲν κακκείοντες ἔβαν οἰκόνδε ἕκαστος,  
 ἥχι ἐκάστῳ δῶμα περικλυτὸς ἀμφιγυήεις  
 Ἥφαιστος ποίησεν ἰδυίησι πρᾶπίδεςσι·  
 Ζεὺς δὲ πρὸς ὃν λέχος ἦι' Ὀλύμπιος ἀστεροπητής,  
 610 ἔνθα πάρος κοιμᾶθ' ὅτε μιν γλυκὺς ὕπνος ἰκάνοι·  
 ἔνθα καθεῦδ' ἀναβάς, παρὰ δὲ χρυσόθρονος Ἥρη.

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When he poured wine for all the other gods from left to right, drawing sweet nectar from the bowl. And unquenchable laughter arose among the blessed gods, as they saw Hephaestus puffing through the palace.

Thus the whole day long till sunset they feasted, nor did their hearts lack anything of the equal banquet, nor of the beauteous lyre that Apollo held, nor of the Muses that sang, replying one to the other with sweet voices.

But when the bright light of the sun went down, they went each to his own house to take their rest where for each a house had been built with cunning skill by the famed Hephaestus, the god of the two lame legs; and Zeus the Olympian, lord of the lightning, went to his bed where he had always taken his rest when sweet sleep came on him. There he went up and slept, and beside him lay Hera of the golden throne.

## B

- Ἄλλοι μὲν ῥα θεοὶ τε καὶ ἄνδρες ἵπποκορυσταὶ  
 εὖδον παννύχιοι, Δία δ' οὐκ ἔχε νήδυμος ὕπνος,  
 ἀλλ' ὃ γε μερμήριζε κατὰ φρένα ὥς Ἀχιλλῆα  
 τιμήσῃ, ὀλέσῃ δὲ πολέας ἐπὶ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.  
 5 ἦδε δέ οἱ κατὰ θυμὸν ἀρίστη φαίνεται βουλή,  
 πέμψαι ἐπ' Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνονι οὐλὸν ὄνειρον·  
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “βάσκ' ἴθι, οὐλὲ ὄνειρε, θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν·  
 ἐλθὼν ἐς κλισίην Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδαο  
 10 πάντα μάλ' ἀτρεκέως ἀγορευέμεν ὥς ἐπιτέλλω·  
 θωρήξαι ἑ κέλευε κάρη κομόωντας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 πανσυδίῃ· νῦν γάρ κεν ἔλοι πόλιν εὐρυάγνιαν  
 Τρώων· οὐ γὰρ ἔτ' ἀμφὶς Ὀλύμπια δώματ' ἔχοντες  
 ἀθάνατοι φράζονται· ἐπέγναμψεν γὰρ ἅπαντας  
 15 Ἥρη λισσομένη, Τρώεσσι δὲ κῆδὲ ἐφῆπται.”  
 Ὡς φάτο, βῆ δ' ἄρ' ὄνειρος, ἐπεὶ τὸν μῦθον ἄκουσε·  
 καρπαλίμως δ' ἵκανε θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν,  
 βῆ δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' Ἀτρεΐδην Ἀγαμέμνονα· τὸν δὲ κίχανεν  
 εὖδοντ' ἐν κλισίῃ, περὶ δ' ἀμβρόσιος κέχυθ' ὕπνος.  
 20 στῇ δ' ἄρ' ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς Νηληϊῶ νῦι ἑοικώς,  
 Νέστορι, τὸν ῥα μάλιστα γερόντων τῷ Ἀγαμέμνων·

## BOOK 2

Now all the other gods and men, lords of chariots, slumbered the whole night through, but sweet sleep did not hold Zeus, for he was pondering in his heart how he might do honor to Achilles and slay many beside the ships of the Achaeans. And this plan seemed to his mind the best, to send to Agamemnon, son of Atreus, a destructive dream. And he spoke, and addressed him with winged words: "Up, go, destructive Dream, to the swift ships of the Achaeans, and when you have come to the hut of Agamemnon, son of Atreus, tell him everything exactly as I charge you. Tell him to arm the long-haired Achaeans with all speed, since now he may take the broad-wayed city of the Trojans. For the immortals who have their homes on Olympus are no longer divided in counsel, since Hera has bent the minds of all by her entreaties, and sorrows have been fastened on the Trojans."

So he spoke, and the Dream set out, when he had heard these words. Quickly he came to the swift ships of the Achaeans, and went to Agamemnon, son of Atreus, and found him sleeping in his hut, and over him was shed ambrosial slumber. So he stood above his head, in the likeness of the son of Neleus, Nestor, whom above all the elders Agamemnon held in honor; likening himself to him,

- τῷ μιν εἰσάμενος προσεφώνεε θεῖος<sup>1</sup> ὄνειρος·  
 “εὐδεις, Ἀτρέος υἱὲ δαΐφρονος ἵπποδάμοιο·  
 οὐ χρὴ παννύχιον εὐδεν βουληφόρον ἄνδρα,  
 25 ᾧ λαοὶ τ’ ἐπιτετράφαται καὶ τόσσα μέμηλε.  
 νῦν δ’ ἐμέθεν ξύνες ὦκα· Διὸς δέ τοι ἄγγελός εἰμι,  
 ὃς σεῦ ἄνευθεν ἐὼν μέγα κήδεται ἡδ’ ἐλεαίρει.<sup>2</sup>  
 θωρήξαι σε κέλευσε κάρη κομόωντας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 πανσυδίη· νῦν γάρ κεν ἔλοις πόλιν εὐρυάγνιαν  
 30 Τρώων· οὐ γὰρ ἔτ’ ἀμφὶς Ὀλύμπια δώματ’ ἔχοντες  
 ἀθάνατοι φράζονται· ἐπέγναμψεν γὰρ ἅπαντας  
 Ἥρη λισσομένη, Τρώεσσι δὲ κήδ’ ἐφήπται  
 ἐκ Διός· ἀλλὰ σὺ σῆσιν ἔχε φρεσί, μηδέ σε λήθη  
 αἰρείτω, εὖτ’ ἂν σε μελίφρων ὕπνος ἀνήγῃ.”  
 35 Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας ἀπεβήσετο, τὸν δ’ ἔλιπ’ αὐτοῦ  
 τὰ φρονέοντ’ ἀνὰ θυμὸν ἃ ῥ’ οὐ τελέεσθαι ἔμελλον.  
 φῆ γὰρ ὅ γ’ αἰρήσειν Πριάμου πόλιν ἡματι κείνῳ,  
 νήπιος, οὐδὲ τὰ ἤδη ἃ ῥα Ζεὺς μήδετο ἔργα·  
 θήσειν γὰρ ἔτ’ ἔμελλεν ἐπ’ ἄλγεά τε στοναχάς τε  
 40 Τρωσὶ τε καὶ Δαναοῖσι διὰ κρατερὰς ὕσμινας.  
 ἔγρετο δ’ ἐξ ὕπνου, θεΐη δέ μιν ἀμφέχυντ’ ὀμφή.  
 ἔζετο δ’ ὀρθωθείς, μαλακὸν δ’ ἔνδυνε χιτῶνα,  
 καλὸν νηγάτεον, περὶ δὲ μέγα βάλλετο φᾶρος·  
 ποσσὶ δ’ ὑπὸ λιπαροῖσιν ἐδήσατο καλὰ πέδιλα,  
 45 ἀμφὶ δ’ ἄρ’ ὥμοισιν βάλετο ξίφος ἀργυρόηλον·  
 εἵλετο δὲ σκῆπτρον πατρώιον, ἄφθιτον αἰεὶ·  
 σὺν τῷ ἔβη κατὰ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων.

<sup>1</sup> θεῖος: οὐλος.

## BOOK 2

the Dream from heaven spoke, saying: "You sleep, son of battle-minded Atreus, tamer of horses. A man that is a counselor must not sleep the whole night through, one to whom an army has been entrusted, and on whom rest so many cares. But now, quickly heed me, for I am a messenger to you from Zeus, who, far away though he is, cares for you greatly and pities you. He wants you to arm the long-haired Achaeans with all speed, since now you may take the broad-wayed city of the Trojans. For the immortals who have their homes on Olympus are no longer divided in counsel, since Hera has bent the minds of all by her entreaties, and sorrows have been fastened on the Trojans by the will of Zeus. But keep this in your mind, and do not let forgetfulness lay hold of you, whenever honey-hearted sleep lets you go."

So spoke the Dream, and went away, and left him there, pondering in his heart on things that were not to come to pass. For he really believed that he should take the city of Priam on that very day—fool that he was!—and he did not know what deeds Zeus was planning; for he was yet to bring woes and groanings on Trojans and Danaans in mighty combats. Then he awoke from sleep, and the divine voice was ringing in his ears. He sat up and put on his soft tunic, fair and bright, and threw his great cloak about him, and beneath his shining feet he bound his fair sandals, and over his shoulders flung his silver-studded sword; and he took the staff of his fathers, imperishable ever, and with it set out along the ships of the bronze-clad Achaeans.

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<sup>2</sup> Line 27 (= 24. 174) was rejected by Aristarchus.

Ἦὼς μὲν ῥα θεὰ προσεβήσετο μακρὸν Ὀλυμπον,  
Ζηνὶ φόως ἐρέουσα καὶ ἄλλοις ἀθανάτοισιν·

- 50 αὐτὰρ ὃ κηρύκεσσι λιγυφθόγγοισι κέλευσε  
κηρύσσειν ἀγορήνδε κάρη κομόωντας Ἀχαιοὺς·  
οἱ μὲν ἐκήρυσσον, τοῖ δ' ἠγείροντο μάλ' ὦκα.

Βουλὴν δὲ πρῶτον μεγαθύμων ἵζε γερόντων  
Νεστορέῃ παρὰ νηὶ Πυλοιογενέος βασιλῆος·

- 55 τοὺς ὃ γε συγκαλέσας πυκινὴν ἀρτύνετο βουλήν·<sup>3</sup>  
“κλῦτε, φίλοι· θεῖός μοι ἐνύπνιον ἦλθεν ὄνειρος  
ἀμβροσίην διὰ νύκτα· μάλιστα δὲ Νέστορι δῖω  
εἶδός τε μέγεθός τε φυὴν τ' ἄγχιστα ἐώκει.  
στῇ δ' ἄρ' ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς καί με πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·  
60 ‘εὔδεις, Ἀτρεὺς υἱὲ δαΐφρονος ἵπποδάμοιο·<sup>4</sup>  
οὐ χρεὴ παννύχιον εὔδειν βουλευφόρον ἄνδρα,  
ὦ λαοὶ τ' ἐπιτετράφαται καὶ τόσσα μέμηλε·  
νῦν δ' ἐμέθεν ξύνες ὦκα· Διὸς δέ τοι ἄγγελός εἰμι,  
ὃς σεῦ ἀνευθεν ἐὼν μέγα κήδεται ἡδ' ἐλεαίρει·  
65 θωρήξαι σε κέλευσε κάρη κομόωντας Ἀχαιοὺς  
πανσυνδίῃ· νῦν γάρ κεν ἔλοις πόλιν εὐρυάγνια  
Τρώων· οὐ γὰρ ἔτ' ἀμφὶς Ὀλύμπια δώματ' ἔχοντες  
ἀθάνατοι φράζονται· ἐπέγναμψεν γὰρ ἅπαντας  
Ἥρη λισσομένη, Τρώεσσι δὲ κήδε' ἐφήπται  
70 ἐκ Διός· ἀλλὰ σὺ σῆσιν ἔχε φρεσίν·’ ὥς ὃ μὲν εἰπὼν  
ῥ' ἔχετ' ἀποπτάμενος, ἐμὲ δὲ γλυκὺς ὕπνος ἀνήκεν.

<sup>3</sup> For line 55 Zenodotus read,

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἠγερθεν ὁμηγερέες τ' ἐγένοντο,  
τοῖσι δ' ἀνιστάμενος μετέφη κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων·



Now the goddess Dawn went up to high Olympus, to announce the light to Zeus and the other immortals, but Agamemnon commanded the clear-voiced heralds to summon the long-haired Achaeans to the place of assembly. And they made summons, and the men gathered very quickly.

But the king first seated the council of the great-hearted elders beside the ship of Nestor, the Pylos-born king. And when he had called them together, he contrived a shrewd plan, and said: "Listen, my friends, a Dream from heaven came to me in my sleep through the ambrosial night, and most like was it to noble Nestor, in form and stature and build. It took its stand above my head, and spoke to me, saying: 'You sleep, son of battle-minded Atreus, tamer of horses. A man that is a counselor must not sleep the whole night through, one to whom an army has been entrusted, and on whom rest so many cares. But now, quickly heed me, for I am a messenger to you from Zeus, who, far away though he is, cares for you greatly and pities you. He wants you to arm the long-haired Achaeans with all speed, since now you may take the broad-wayed city of the Trojans. For the immortals who have their homes on Olympus are no longer divided in counsel, since Hera has bent the minds of all by her entreaties, and sorrows have been fastened on the Trojans by the will of Zeus. But keep this in your mind.' So he spoke, and flew away, and sweet sleep released me. But come, let us see if somehow we can

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<sup>4</sup> For lines 60–70 Zenodotus read,

*ἡνώγει σε πατὴρ ὑψίζυγος αἰθέρι ναίων*

*Τρωσὶ μαχήσασθαι προτὶ Ἴλιον· ὥς ὁ μὲν εἰπὼν*

ἀλλ' ἄγετ', αἶ κέν πως θωρήξομεν νῆας Ἀχαιῶν·  
 πρῶτα δ' ἐγὼν ἔπεσιν πειρήσομαι, ἣ θέμις ἐστί,  
 καὶ φεύγειν σὺν νηυσὶ πολυκλήισι κελεύσω·  
 75 ὑμεῖς δ' ἄλλοθεν ἄλλος ἐρητύειν ἐπέεσσιν.”

Ἦ τοι ὁ γ' ὥς εἰπὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετο, τοῖσι δ'  
 ἀνέστη<sup>5</sup>

Νέστωρ, ὅς ῥα Πύλοιο ἀναξ ἦν ἡμαθόεντος·  
 ὁ σφιν ἐν φρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν·  
 “ὦ φίλοι, Ἀργείων ἡγήτορες ἡδὲ μέδοντες,  
 80 εἰ μὲν τις τὸν ὄνειρον Ἀχαιῶν ἄλλος ἔνισπε,  
 ψεῦδός κεν φαῖμεν καὶ νοσφιζοίμεθα μᾶλλον.  
 νῦν δ' ἴδεν ὅς μέγ' ἄριστος Ἀχαιῶν<sup>6</sup> εὔχεται εἶναι.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγετ', αἶ κέν πως θωρήξομεν νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.”

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας βουλῆς ἐξ ἤρχε νέεσθαι,  
 85 οἱ δ' ἐπανέστησαν πείθοντό τε ποιμένι λαῶν  
 σκηπτοῦχοι βασιλῆες· ἐπεσσεύοντο δὲ λαοί.  
 ἥντε ἔθνεα εἴσι μελισσάων ἀδινάων,  
 πέτρης ἐκ γλαφυρῆς αἰεὶ νέον ἐρχομενάων·  
 βοτρυδὸν δὲ πέτονται ἐπ' ἀνθεσιν εἰαρινοῖσιν·  
 90 αἱ μὲν τ' ἔνθα ἅλις πεποτήγεται, αἱ δέ τε ἔνθα·  
 ὥς τῶν ἔθνεα πολλὰ νεῶν ἅπο καὶ κλισιάων  
 ἡϊόνος προπάροιθε βαθείης ἐστιχόωντο  
 ἱλαδὸν εἰς ἀγορὴν· μετὰ δέ σφισιν Ὅσσα δεδήει  
 ὀτρύνουσ' ἰέναι, Διὸς ἄγγελος· οἱ δ' ἀγέροντο.  
 95 τετρήχει δ' ἀγορῇ, ὑπὸ δὲ στεναχίζετο γαῖα  
 λαῶν ἰζόντων, ὄμαδος δ' ἦν. ἐννέα δέ σφεας  
 κήρυκες βοόωντες ἐρήτυον, εἴ ποτ' αὐτῆς  
 σχοίατ', ἀκούσειαν δὲ διοτρεφέων βασιλῆων.

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arm the sons of the Achaeans; but first I will make trial of them with words, as is customary, and tell them to flee with their benched ships, and you, one here, one there, try to restrain them with words."

So saying, he sat down, and among them rose up Nestor, who was king of sandy Pylos. He with good intent addressed the assembly and spoke among them: "My friends, leaders and rulers of the Argives, if anyone else of the Achaeans had told us this dream, we might say it was a lie and rather turn away from it; but now he has seen it who declares himself to be far the best of the Achaeans. But come, let us see if somehow we can arm the sons of the Achaeans."

He spoke, and led the way out of the council, and the other sceptered kings rose up and obeyed the shepherd of men; and the troops were hurrying on. Just as tribes of swarming bees emerge from some hollow rock, constantly coming on afresh, and in clusters over the flowers of spring fly in throngs, some here, some there, so from the ships and huts by the low sea beach marched out in companies their many tribes to the place of assembly. And with them blazed Rumor, messenger of Zeus, urging them on; and they gathered together. And the place of assembly was in a turmoil, and the earth groaned beneath the men as they sat down, and a din arose. Nine heralds with shouting tried to restrain them, to see if they might refrain from uproar and give ear to the kings, nurtured by Zeus. With difficulty

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<sup>5</sup> Lines 76–83 were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>6</sup> Ἀχαιῶν: ἐνὶ στρατῷ.

- σπουδῇ δ' ἔζετο λαός, ἐρήτυθεν δὲ καθ' ἔδρας  
 100 πανσάμενοι κλαγγῆς. ἀνὰ δὲ κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 ἔστη σκῆπτρον ἔχων, τὸ μὲν Ἥφαιστος κάμε τεύχων.  
 Ἥφαιστος μὲν δῶκε Διὶ Κρονίῳ ἀνακτι,  
 αὐτὰρ ἄρα Ζεὺς δῶκε διακτόρῳ ἀργεῖφόντῃ·  
 Ἑρμείας δὲ ἄναξ δῶκεν Πέλοπι πληξίππῳ,  
 105 αὐτὰρ ὁ αὖτε Πέλοψ δῶκ' Ἀτρεί, ποιμένι λαῶν·  
 Ἀτρεὺς δὲ θνήσκων ἔλιπεν πολύαρνι Θυέστῃ,  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ αὖτε Θυέστ' Ἀγαμέμνονι λείπε φορῆναι,  
 πολλῇσιν νήσοισι καὶ Ἀργεῖ παντὶ ἀνάσσειν.  
 τῷ ὃ γ' ἐρεϊσάμενος ἔπε' Ἀργείοισι μετηύδα·  
 110 “ὦ φίλοι, ἦρωες Δαναοί, θεράποντες Ἄρης,  
 Ζεὺς με μέγας<sup>7</sup> Κρονίδης ἄτῃ ἐνέδησε βαρείῃ,<sup>8</sup>  
 σχέτλιος, ὃς πρὶν μὲν μοι ὑπέσχετο καὶ κατένευσεν  
 Ἴλιον ἐκπέρσαντ' ἐντείχεον ἀπονέεσθαι,  
 νῦν δὲ κακὴν ἀπάτην βουλεύσατο, καί με κελεύει  
 115 δυσκλέα Ἄργος ἰκέσθαι, ἐπεὶ πολὺν ὤλεσα λαόν.  
 οὕτω που Διὶ μέλλει ὑπερμενέει φίλον εἶναι,  
 ὃς δὴ πολλῶν πολίων κατέλυσε κάρηνα  
 ἥδ' ἔτι καὶ λύσει· τοῦ γὰρ κράτος ἐστὶ μέγιστον.  
 αἰσχρὸν γὰρ τόδε γ'<sup>9</sup> ἐστὶ καὶ ἐσσομένοισι πυθέσθαι,  
 120 μὰψ οὕτω τοιόνδε τοσόνδε τε λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἄπρηκτον πόλεμον πολεμίζειν ἥδὲ μάχεσθαι  
 ἀνδράσι παυροτέροισι, τέλος δ' οὐ πῶ τι πέφανται.  
 εἴ περ γάρ κ' ἐθέλοιμεν Ἀχαιοί τε Τρῳῆς τε,  
 ὄρκια πιστὰ ταμόντες, ἀριθμηθήμεναι ἄμφω,<sup>10</sup>

<sup>7</sup> μέγας Aristarchus: μέγα Zenodotus, MSS.

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were the men seated and kept in their places, ceasing from their clamor. Then among them lord Agamemnon stood up, holding in his hands the scepter which Hephaestus had toiled over making. Hephaestus gave it to lord Zeus, son of Cronos, and Zeus gave it to the messenger Argeïphontes; and Hermes, the lord, gave it to Pelops, driver of horses, and Pelops in turn gave it to Atreus, shepherd of men; and Atreus at his death left it to Thyestes, rich in flocks, and Thyestes again left it to Agamemnon to carry, to be lord of many isles and of all Argos.

Leaning on this he addressed the Argives: "My friends, Danaan warriors, attendants of Ares, great Zeus, son of Cronos, has ensnared me in grievous blindness of heart—harsh god, since at one time he promised me, and bowed his head to it, that only after sacking well-walled Ilios would I return home; but now he has planned cruel deceit, and tells me to return inglorious to Argos, when I have lost many men. Such, I suppose, must be the pleasure of Zeus, supreme in might, who has laid low the towers of many cities, and will lay low still more, for his power is very great. A shameful thing it is even for men in times to come to hear, that so noble and so great an army of the Achaeans so vainly warred a fruitless war, and fought with men fewer than they, and no end to it has yet been seen. For if we should be minded, both Achaeans and Trojans, to swear a solemn oath and to number ourselves, and if the Trojans

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<sup>8</sup> Lines 111–118 were rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>9</sup> *αἰσχρὸν γὰρ τόδε γ'· λώβῃ γὰρ τάδε γ'* Zenodotus.

<sup>10</sup> Line 124 was rejected by Aristarchus.

- 125 Τρῶας μὲν λέξασθαι ἐφέστιοι ὅσσοι ἔασιν,  
 ἡμεῖς δ' ἐς δεκάδας διακοσμηθεῖμεν Ἀχαιοί,  
 Τρώων δ' ἄνδρα ἕκαστοι ἐλοίμεθα οἰνοχοεῦειν,  
 πολλαί κεν δεκάδες δευοίατο οἰνοχόοιο.  
 τόσσον ἐγὼ φημι πλέας ἔμμεναι νῆας Ἀχαιῶν
- 130 Τρώων, οἳ ναίουσι κατὰ πτόλιν· ἀλλ' ἐπίκουροι<sup>11</sup>  
 πολλέων ἐκ πολίων ἐγχέσπαλοι ἄνδρες ἔασιν,  
 οἳ με μέγα πλάζουσιν καὶ οὐκ εἰῶσ' ἐθέλοντα  
 Ἴλίου ἐκπέρσαι εὖ ναιόμενον πτολίεθρον.  
 ἐννέα δὴ βεβάασιν Διὸς μεγάλου ἐνιαυτοί,  
 135 καὶ δὴ δοῦρα σέσηπε νεῶν καὶ σπάρτα λέλυνται·  
 αἱ δέ που ἡμέτεραί τ' ἄλοχοι καὶ νήπια τέκνα  
 ἦατ' ἐνὶ μεγάροις ποτιδέγμεναι· ἄμμι δὲ ἔργον  
 αὐτῶς ἀκράαντον, οὗ εἵνεκα δεῦρ' ἰκόμεσθα.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγεθ', ὥς ἂν ἐγὼ εἴπω, πειθώμεθα πάντες·
- 140 φεύγωμεν σὺν νηυσὶ φίλῃν ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν·  
 οὐ γὰρ ἔτι Τροίην αἰρήσομεν εὐρυνάγνιαν.”<sup>12</sup>  
 ὧς φάτο, τοῖσι δὲ θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι νῆρι  
 πᾶσι μετὰ πληθύν, ὅσοι οὐ βουλῆς ἐπάκουσαν.”<sup>13</sup>  
 κινήθη δ' ἀγορὴ φῆ<sup>14</sup> κύματα μακρὰ θαλάσσης,  
 145 πόντου Ἰκαρίοιο, τὰ μὲν τ' Εὐρὸς τε Νότος τε  
 ὥρορ' ἐπαΐξας πατρὸς Διὸς ἐκ νεφελῶν.  
 ὥς δ' ὅτε κινήσῃ Ζέφυρος βαθὺν λήιον ἐλθὼν,  
 λάβρος ἐπαιγίζων, ἐπὶ τ' ἡμῦν ἀσταχύεσσιν,  
 ὥς τῶν πᾶσ' ἀγορὴ κινήθη· τοὶ δ' ἀλαλητῶ  
 150 νῆας ἔπ' ἐσσεύοντο, ποδῶν δ' ὑπένερθε κονίῃ  
 ἵστατ' ἀειρομένη· τοὶ δ' ἀλλήλοισι κέλευον

should be gathered together, all those who have dwellings in the city, and we Achaeans should be marshaled by tens, and choose, each company of us, a man of the Trojans to pour our wine, then would many tens lack a wine pourer; so far, I say, do the sons of the Achaeans outnumber the Trojans who dwell in the city. But there are allies from many cities, men who wield the spear, who hinder me greatly and, though I wish it, do not allow me to sack the well-peopled city of Ilios. Already nine years of great Zeus have gone by, and now our ships' timbers are rotted, and the tackle is slackened; and our wives, I imagine, and little ones sit in our halls awaiting us; yet is the task for which we came here wholly unaccomplished. But come, just as I shall say, let us all obey: let us flee with our ships to our dear native land; for no longer is there hope that we shall take broad-wayed Troy."

So he spoke, and roused the hearts in the breasts of all those throughout the multitude who had not heard the council. And the assembly was stirred like the long waves of the Icarian sea, which the East Wind or the South Wind has raised, rushing on them from the clouds of father Zeus. And just as when the West Wind at its coming stirs the grain with its violent blast, and the ears bow, so was all their assembly stirred, and they with loud shouting rushed towards the ships; and from beneath their feet the dust rose up and hung in the air. And they called to each other to

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<sup>11</sup> Lines 130–133 were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>12</sup> Line 141 was rejected by some ancient critics.

<sup>13</sup> Line 143 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>14</sup> φῆ Zenodotus: ὥς MSS.

ἄπτεσθαι νηῶν ἥδ' ἐλκόμεν εἰς ἄλα δῖαν,  
οὐρούς τ' ἐξεκάθαιρον· αὐτὴ δ' οὐρανὸν ἴκεν  
οἴκαδε ἰεμένων· ὑπὸ δ' ἤρεον ἔρματα νηῶν.

155 Ἐνθα κεν Ἀργείοισιν ὑπέρμορα νόστος ἐτύχθη,  
εἰ μὴ Ἀθηναίην Ἥρη πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν.<sup>15</sup>

“ὦ πόποι, αἰγιόχοιο Διὸς τέκος, Ἀτρυτώνη,  
οὕτω δὴ οἰκόνδε φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν  
Ἀργεῖοι φεύξονται ἐπ' εὐρέα νῶτα θαλάσσης;

160 καὶ δέ κεν εὐχολὴν Πριάμῳ καὶ Τρωσὶ λίποιεν<sup>16</sup>

Ἀργεῖν Ἑλένην, ἧς εἵνεκα πολλοὶ Ἀχαιῶν  
ἐν Τροίῃ ἀπόλοντο, φίλης ἀπὸ πατρίδος αἵης.

ἀλλ' ἴθι νῦν κατὰ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων·  
σοῖς ἀγανοῖς ἐπέεσσιν ἐρήτυε φῶτα ἕκαστον,<sup>17</sup>

165 μὴδὲ ἕα νῆας ἄλαδ' ἐλκόμεν ἀμφιελίσσας.”

Ὡς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθησε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,  
βῆ δὲ κατ' Οὐλύμποιο καρήνων αἶξασα·

καρπαλίμως δ' ἵκανε θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.<sup>18</sup>

εὗρεν ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα, Διὶ μῆτιν ἀτάλαντον,

170 ἑσταότ'· οὐδ' ὃ γε νηὸς ἐνσσέλμοιο μελαίνης

ἄπτειτ', ἐπεὶ μιν ἄχος κραδίην καὶ θυμὸν ἵκανεν·

ἀγχοῦ δ' ἵσταμένη προσέφη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·

“διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεῦ,

οὕτω δὴ οἰκόνδε φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν

175 φεύξεσθ' ἐν νήεσσι πολυκλήμισι πεσόντες;

<sup>15</sup> For line 156 Zenodotus read,

εἰ μὴ Ἀθηναίη λαοσσόος ἦλθ' ἀπ' Ὀλύμπου,  
omitting lines 157–168.



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lay hold of the ships and draw them into the bright sea, and they set about clearing the launching-ways, and their shouting went up to heaven, so eager were they to return home; and they began to take the props from beneath the ships.

Then would the Argives have accomplished their return even beyond what was fated, had not Hera spoken a word to Athena, saying: "Well, now, child of Zeus who bears the aegis, Atrytone! Is this the way indeed that the Argives are to flee to their dear native land over the broad back of the sea? And would they leave a boast to Priam and the Trojans, Argive Helen, for whose sake many Achaeans have perished in Troy, far from their dear native land? But go now through the army of the bronze-clad Achaeans; with your gentle words restrain every man, and do not let them launch their curved ships on the sea."

So she spoke, and the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, failed not to obey. Down from the peaks of Olympus she darted, and quickly came to the swift ships of the Achaeans. Then she found Odysseus, the peer of Zeus in counsel, standing still. He was not laying hold of his benched black ship, since grief had come on his heart and spirit; and flashing-eyed Athene came up to him, and said: "Son of Laertes, sprung from Zeus, Odysseus of many wiles, is this the way indeed you will fling yourselves on your benched ships and flee to your dear native land? And

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<sup>16</sup> Lines 160–162 (= 176–178) were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>17</sup> Line 164 (=180) was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>18</sup> Line 168 is omitted in many MSS.

καδ δέ κεν εὐχολὴν Πριάμῳ καὶ Τρωσὶ λίποιτε  
 Ἀργείην Ἑλένην, ἧς εἵνεκα πολλοὶ Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἐν Τροίῃ ἀπόλοντο, φίλης ἀπὸ πατρίδος αἵης;  
 ἀλλ' ἔθι νῦν κατὰ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν, μηδ' ἔτ' ἐρώει,  
 180 σοῖς δ' ἀγανοῖς ἐπέεσσιν ἐρήτυε φῶτα ἕκαστον,  
 μηδὲ ἕα νῆας ἄλαδ' ἐλκέμεν ἀμφιελίσσας.”

Ὡς φάθ', ὁ δὲ ξυνέηκε θεᾶς ὅπα φωνησάσης,  
 βῆ δὲ θέειν, ἀπὸ δὲ χλαῖναν βάλε· τὴν δὲ κόμισσε  
 κῆρυξ Εὐρυβάτης Ἰθακήσιος, ὅς οἱ ὀπῆδει.  
 185 αὐτὸς δ' Ἀτρεΐδew Ἀγαμέμνωνος ἀντίος ἐλθὼν  
 δέξατό οἱ σκῆπτρον πατρώιον, ἄφθιτον αἰεὶ  
 σὺν τῷ ἔβη κατὰ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων.

Ὅν τινα μὲν βασιλῆα καὶ ἔξοχον ἄνδρα κιχείη,  
 τὸν δ' ἀγανοῖς ἐπέεσσιν ἐρητύσασκε παραστάς·  
 190 “δαιμόνι', οὐ σέ ἔοικε κακὸν ὥς δειδίσσεσθαι,  
 ἀλλ' αὐτὸς τε κάθησο καὶ ἄλλους ἵδρυε λαούς.  
 οὐ γάρ πω σάφα οἶσθ' οἷος νόος Ἀτρεΐωνος·  
 νῦν μὲν πειράται, τάχα δ' ὑψεται νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.<sup>19</sup>  
 ἐν βουλῇ δ' οὐ πάντες ἀκούσαμεν οἶον εἶπε;  
 195 μή τι χολωσάμενος ῥέξῃ κακὸν νῆας Ἀχαιῶν·  
 θυμὸς δὲ μέγας ἐστὶ διοτρεφένων βασιλῆων,  
 τιμὴ δ' ἐκ Διὸς ἐστι, φιλεῖ δέ ἐ μητίετα Ζεὺς.”

Ὅν δ' αὖ δῆμον τ' ἄνδρα ἴδοι βοῶντά τ' ἐφεύροι,  
 τὸν σκῆπτρῳ ἐλάσασκεν ὁμοκλήσασκέ τε μύθῳ·  
 200 “δαιμόνι', ἀτρέμας ἦσο καὶ ἄλλων μῦθον ἄκουε,  
 οἱ σέο φέρτεροί εἰσι, σὺ δ' ἀπτόλεμος καὶ ἄναλκις,

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would you leave a boast to Priam and the Trojans, Argive Helen, for whose sake many Achaeans have perished in Troy, far from their dear native land? But go now through the army of the Achaeans, and hold back no more; with your gentle words seek to restrain every man, and do not let them launch their curved ships on the sea."

So she spoke, and he heeded the voice of the goddess, and set out at a run, and tossed off his cloak, which his herald gathered up, Eurybates of Ithaca, who waited on him. But he himself went straight to Agamemnon, son of Atreus, and took from him the staff of his fathers, imperishable ever, and with it went along the ships of the bronze-clad Achaeans.

Whatever king or man of note he met, to his side he would come and with gentle words seek to restrain him, saying: "It is not right, man, to try to frighten you as if you were a coward, but sit down yourself, and make the rest of your people sit. For you do not yet know clearly what is the mind of the son of Atreus; now he is making trial, but soon he will strike the sons of the Achaeans. Did we not all hear what he said in the council? Take care that in his anger he not harm the sons of the Achaeans. Proud is the heart of kings, nurtured by Zeus; for their honor is from Zeus, and Zeus, god of counsel, loves them."

But whatever man of the people he saw, and found brawling, him he would drive on with his staff, and rebuke with words, saying: "Sit still, man, and listen to the words of others who are better men than you; you are unwarlike

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<sup>19</sup> Lines 193–197 were rejected by Aristarchus, who also transferred to this place lines 203–205.

- οὔτε ποτ' ἐν πολέμῳ ἐναρίθμιος οὔτ' ἐνὶ βουλῇ.  
οὐ μὲν πως πάντες βασιλεύσομεν ἐνθάδ' Ἀχαιοί·  
οὐκ ἀγαθὸν πολυκοιρανίη· εἷς κοίρανος ἔστω,  
205 εἷς βασιλεύς, ᾧ δῶκε Κρόνου παῖς ἀγκυλομήτεω  
σκήπτρόν τ' ἠδὲ θέμιστας, ἵνα σφίσι βουλεύησι.”<sup>20</sup>  
Ὡς ὃ γε κοιρανέων δῖεπε στρατόν· οἱ δ' ἀγορήνδε  
αὔτις ἐπεσσεύοντο νεῶν ἄπο καὶ κλισιάων  
ἡχῇ, ὥς ὅτε κῦμα πολυφλοίσβοιο θαλάσσης  
210 αἰγιαλῷ μεγάλῳ βρέμεται, σμαραγεῖ δέ τε πόντος.  
Ἄλλοι μὲν ῥ' ἔζοντο, ἐρήτυθεν δὲ καθ' ἔδρας·  
Θερσίτης δ' ἔτι μῶνος ἀμετροεπῆς ἐκολῶα,  
ὃς ἔπεα φρεσὶ ᾗσιν ἄκοσμά τε πολλά τε ἤδη,  
μάψ, ἀτὰρ οὐ κατὰ κόσμον, ἐριζέμεναι βασιλεύσιν,  
215 ἀλλ' ὃ τί οἱ εἴσαιτο γελοῖον Ἀργείοισιν  
ἔμμεναι. αἴσχιστος δὲ ἀνὴρ ὑπὸ Ἴλιον ἦλθε·  
φολκὸς ἔην, χωλὸς δ' ἕτερον πόδα· τῷ δέ οἱ ὦμω  
κυρτώ, ἐπὶ στῆθος συνοχωκότε· αὐτὰρ ὑπερθε  
φοξὸς ἔην κεφαλὴν, ψεδνὴ δ' ἐπεινήνοθε λάχνη.  
220 ἔχθιστος δ' Ἀχιλῇ μάλιστ' ἦν ἠδ' Ὀδυσῆϊ.<sup>21</sup>  
τῷ γὰρ νεικεῖσκε· τότε αὐτ' Ἀγαμέμνονι δίῳ  
ὀξέα κεκλήγων λέγ' ὀνείδεα. τῷ δ' ἄρ' Ἀχαιοὶ  
ἐκπάγλως κοτέοντο νεμέσσηθέν τ' ἐνὶ θυμῷ.  
αὐτὰρ ὁ μακρὰ βοῶν Ἀγαμέμνονα νείκεε μύθῳ·  
225 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ, τέο δὴ αὐτ' ἐπιμέμφεαι ἠδὲ χατίζεις;  
πλεῖαί τοι χαλκοῦ κλισίαι, πολλαὶ δὲ γυναῖκες<sup>22</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Line 206 is omitted in many MSS. For βουλεύησι (Dio Chrysostomus) the MSS give the unmetrical βασιλεύη.

## BOOK 2

and lacking in valor, to be counted neither in war nor in counsel. In no way will we Achaeans all be kings here. No good thing is a multitude of lords; let there be one lord, one king, to whom the son of crooked-counseling Cronos has given the scepter and judgments, so that he may take counsel for his people.”

Thus in lordly manner he brought the army under control, and they hurried back to the place of assembly from their ships and huts noisily, as when a wave of the loud-resounding sea thunders on the long beach, and the depths roar.

Now the others sat down and were restrained in their places, only there still kept chattering on Thersites of measureless speech, whose mind was full of a great store of disorderly words, with which to revile the kings, recklessly and in no due order, but whatever he thought would raise a laugh among the Argives. Ugly was he beyond all men who came to Ilios: he was bandy-legged and lame in one foot, and his shoulders were rounded, hunching together over his chest, and above them his head was pointed, and a scant stubble grew on it. Hateful was he to Achilles above all, and to Odysseus, for those two he was in the habit of reviling; but now with shrill cries he uttered abuse against noble Agamemnon. With him were the Achaeans exceedingly angry, and indignant in their hearts. But shouting loudly he reviled Agamemnon: “Son of Atreus, what are you unhappy about this time, or what do you lack? Your huts are filled with bronze, and there are many women in

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<sup>21</sup> Lines 220–223 were rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>22</sup> *πολλὰι δὲ γυναικες: πλείαι δὲ γυναικῶν* Zenodotus, who rejected lines 227 f.

- εἰσὶν ἐνὶ κλισίῃς ἐξαίρετοι, ἄς τοι Ἀχαιοὶ  
 πρωτίστῳ δίδομεν, εὖτ' ἂν πτολίεθρον ἔλωμεν.  
 ἧ ἔτι καὶ χρυσοῦ ἐπιδεύεαι, ὃν κέ τις οἴσκει  
 230 Τρώων ἵπποδάμων ἐξ Ἴλίου νῆος ἄποινα,  
 ὃν κεν ἐγὼ δῆσας ἀγάγω ἢ ἄλλος Ἀχαιῶν,<sup>23</sup>  
 ἥ ἐ γυναιῖκα νέην ἵνα μίσγεται ἐν φιλότῃτι,  
 ἣν τ' αὐτὸς ἀπονόσφι κατίσχει; οὐ μὲν ἔοικεν  
 ἀρχὸν εὐντα κακῶν ἐπιβασκόμεν νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.  
 235 ὦ πέπονες, κάκ' ἐλέγχε', Ἀχαιῖδες, οὐκέτ' Ἀχαιοί.  
 οἴκαδέ περ σὺν νηυσὶ νεώμεθα, τόνδε δ' ἐῷμεν  
 αὐτοῦ ἐνὶ Τροίῃ γέρα πεσσέμεν, ὅφρα ἴδῃται  
 ἧ ῥά τί οἱ χῆμεῖς προσαμύνομεν, ἦε καὶ οὐκί·  
 ὃς καὶ νῦν Ἀχιλῆα, ἔο μέγ' ἀμείνονα φῶτα,  
 240 ἠτίμησεν· ἐλὼν γὰρ ἔχει γέρας, αὐτὸς ἀπούρας.  
 ἀλλὰ μάλ' οὐκ Ἀχιλῆι χόλος φρεσὶν, ἀλλὰ μεθήμων·  
 ἧ γὰρ ἄν, Ἀτρεΐδῃ, νῦν ὕστατα λωβήσαιο."  
 Ὡς φάτο νεικείων Ἀγαμέμνονα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
 Θερσίτης· τῷ δ' ὦκα παρίστατο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,  
 245 καὶ μιν ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν χαλεπῷ ἠνίπαπε μύθῳ·  
 "Θερσίτ' ἀκριτόμυθε, λιγύς περ ἐὼν ἀγορητής,  
 ἴσχεο, μηδ' ἔθελ' οἷος ἐριζέμεναι βασιλεῦσιν.  
 οὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ σέο φημὶ χερεϊότερον βροτὸν ἄλλον  
 ἔμμεναι, ὅσσοι ἄμ' Ἀτρεΐδης ὑπὸ Ἴλιον ἦλθον.  
 250 τῷ οὐκ ἂν βασιλῆας ἀνὰ στόμ' ἔχων ἀγορεύοις,  
 καὶ σφιν ὀνειδέα τε προφέροις, νόστον τε φυλάσσοις.  
 οὐδέ τί πω σάφα ἴδμεν ὅπως ἔσται τάδε ἔργα,<sup>24</sup>

<sup>23</sup> Lines 231–234 were rejected by Zenodotus.

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your huts, chosen spoils that we Achaeans give you first of all, whenever we take a city. Or do you still want gold also, which one of the horse-taming Trojans will bring you out of Ilios as a ransom for his son, whom I perhaps have bound and led away or some other of the Achaeans? Or is it some young girl for you to know in love, whom you will keep apart for yourself? It is not right for one who is their leader to bring the sons of the Achaeans harm. Soft fools! Base things of shame, you women of Achaea, men no more, homeward let us go with our ships, and leave this fellow here in the land of Troy to digest his prizes, so that he may learn whether we, too, aid him in any way or not—he who has now done dishonor to Achilles, a man far better than he; for he has taken away and keeps his prize by his own arrogant act. But surely there is no wrath in the heart of Achilles, but he is complacent; for otherwise, son of Atreus, you would now be committing your last act of insolence.”

So spoke Thersites, railing at Agamemnon, shepherd of men. But quickly to his side came noble Odysseus, and with an angry glance scolded him with harsh words, saying: “Thersites of reckless speech, clear-voiced talker though you are, restrain yourself, and do not be minded to quarrel alone with kings. For I think that there is no baser mortal than you among all those who with the sons of Atreus came beneath Ilios. So you ought not take the name of kings in your mouth as you hold forth, and cast reproaches on them, and watch for home-going. We do not yet know clearly how these things will be, whether we sons of the

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<sup>24</sup> Lines 252–256 were rejected by Aristarchus.

- ἢ εὖ ἢε κακῶς νοστήσομεν υἷες Ἀχαιῶν.  
 τῷ νῦν Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνονι, ποιμένι λαῶν,  
 255 ἦσαι ὀνειδίζων, ὅτι οἱ μάλα πολλὰ διδοῦσιν  
 ἦρωες Δαναοί· σὺ δὲ κερτομέων ἀγορεύεις.  
 ἀλλ' ἔκ τοι ἐρέω, τὸ δὲ καὶ τετελεσμένον ἔσται·  
 εἴ κ' ἔτι σ' ἀφραίνοντα κιχήσομαι ὥς νύ περ ᾧδε,  
 μηκέτ' ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῇ κάρη ὤμοισιν ἐπείη,  
 260 μηδ' ἔτι Τηλεμάχοιο πατὴρ κεκλημένος εἶην,  
 εἰ μὴ ἐγὼ σε λαβὼν ἀπὸ μὲν φίλα εἵματα δύσω,  
 χλαῖνάν τ' ἠδὲ χιτῶνα, τά τ' αἰδῶ ἀμφικαλύπτει,  
 αὐτὸν δὲ κλαίοντα θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας ἀφήσω  
 πεπλήγων ἀγορήθην αἰκέεσσι πληγῇσιν.”
- 265 Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, σκῆπτρῳ δὲ μετάφρενον ἠδὲ καὶ ὦμῳ  
 πλήξεν· ὁ δ' ἰδνῶθη, θαλερὸν δέ οἱ ἔκπεσε δάκρυ·  
 σμῶδιξ δ' αἱματόεσσα μεταφρένου ἐξυπανέστη  
 σκῆπτρου ὑπο χρυσέου. ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἔξετο τάρβησέν τε,  
 ἀλγῆσας δ', ἀχρεῖον ἰδὼν, ἀπομόρξατο δάκρυ.  
 270 οἱ δὲ καὶ ἀχνύμενοί περ ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἠδὺν γέλασσαν·  
 ᾧδε δέ τις εἶπεσκεν ἰδὼν ἐς πλησίον ἄλλον·  
 “ὦ πόποι, ἦ δὴ μυρί' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἐσθλὰ ἔοργε  
 βουλὰς τ' ἐξάρχων ἀγαθὰς πόλεμόν τε κορύσσω·  
 νῦν δὲ τόδε μέγ' ἄριστον ἐν Ἀργείοισιν ἔρεξεν,  
 275 ὃς τὸν λωβητῆρα ἐπεσβόλον ἔσχ' ἀγοράων.  
 οὐ θήν μιν πάλιν αὖτις ἀνήσει θυμὸς ἀγήνωρ  
 νεικείειν βασιλῆας ὀνειδείοις ἐπέεσσιν.”
- Ὡς φάσαν ἢ πληθὺς· ἀνὰ δ' ὁ πτολίπορθος Ὀδυσ-  
 σεὺς  
 ἔστη σκῆπτρον ἔχων· παρὰ δὲ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη



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Achaeans will return home well or ill. So you now continually revile Atreus' son, Agamemnon, shepherd of men, because the Danaan warriors give him very many gifts; and you hold forth with mockery. But I will speak out to you, and this will surely come to pass: if I find you again playing the fool, as you are doing now, then may the head of Odysseus rest no more on his shoulders, and may I no more be called the father of Telemachus, if I do not take you and strip off your clothes, your cloak and tunic, that cover your nakedness, and send you yourself wailing to the swift ships, driven out of the place of assembly with shameful blows."

So spoke Odysseus, and with the staff struck his back and shoulders; and Thersites cowered down, and a big tear fell from him, and a bloody welt rose up on his back from the staff of gold. Then he sat down, and fear came on him and, stung by pain, he wiped the tear away with a helpless look.

But the Achaeans, though they were troubled at heart, broke into merry laughter at him, and one would turn to his neighbor and say: "Well, now! Surely Odysseus has before this performed good deeds without number as leader in good counsel and setting battle in array, but now is this deed far the best that he has performed among the Argives, since he has made this scurrilous babbler cease from his harangues. Never again, I think, will his proud spirit set him on to rail at kings with reviling words."

So spoke the mass of men; but up rose Odysseus, sacker of cities, the staff in his hand, and by his side flashing-eyed

- 280 εἶδομένη κήρυκι σιωπᾶν λαὸν ἀνώγει,  
ὥς ἅμα θ' οἱ πρῶτοί τε καὶ ὕστατοι νῆες Ἀχαιῶν  
μῦθον ἀκούσειαν καὶ ἐπιφρασσαίατο βουλὴν.  
ὁ σφιν ἐὺ φρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν·  
“Ἀτρεΐδῃ, νῦν δὴ σε, ἄναξ, ἐθέλουσιν Ἀχαιοὶ  
285 πᾶσιν ἐλέγχιστον θέμεναι μερόπεσσι βροτοῖσιν,  
οὐδέ τοι ἐκτελέουσιν ὑπόσχεσιν ἣν περ ὑπέσταν  
ἐνθάδ' ἔτι στείχοντες ἀπ' Ἀργεος ἵπποβότοιο,  
Ἴλιον ἐκπέρσαντ' εὐτείχεον ἀπονέεσθαι.  
ὥς τε γὰρ ἡ παῖδες νεαροὶ χῆραί τε γυναῖκες  
290 ἀλλήλοισιν ὀδύρονται οἰκόνδε νέεσθαι.  
ἡ μὲν καὶ πόνος ἐστὶν ἀνηθέντα νέεσθαι·  
καὶ γάρ τίς θ' ἓνα μῆνα μένων ἀπὸ ἧς ἀλόχοιο  
ἀσχαλάῃ σὺν νηὶ πολυζύγῳ, ὃν περ ἄελλαι  
χειμέριαι εἰλέωσιν ὀρινομένη τε θάλασσα·  
295 ἡμῖν δ' εἵνατός ἐστι περιτροπέων ἐνιαυτὸς  
ἐνθάδε μιμνόντεσσι τῷ οὐ νεμεσίζομ' Ἀχαιοὺς  
ἀσχαλάαν παρὰ νηυσὶ κορωνίσιν·<sup>25</sup> ἀλλὰ καὶ ἔμψης  
αἰσχρόν τοι δηρόν τε μένειν κενεόν τε νέεσθαι.  
τλήτε, φίλοι, καὶ μείνατ' ἐπὶ χρόνον, ὅφρα δαῶμεν  
300 ἡ ἑτέον Κάλχας μαντεύεται, ἧε καὶ οὐκί.  
εὖ γὰρ δὴ τόδε ἴδμεν ἐνὶ φρεσίν, ἐστὲ δὲ πάντες  
μάρτυροι, οὓς μὴ κῆρες ἔβαν θανάτοιο φέρουσαι·  
χθιζά τε καὶ πρωΐζ', ὅτ' ἐς Αὐλίδα νῆες Ἀχαιῶν  
ἡγέρεθοντο κακὰ Πριάμῳ καὶ Τρωσὶ φέρουσαι·  
305 ἡμεῖς δ' ἀμφὶ περὶ κρήνην ἱερούς κατὰ βωμοὺς  
ἔρδομεν ἀθανάτοισι τεληέσσας ἐκατόμβας,  
καλῇ ὑπὸ πλατανίστῳ, ὅθεν ῥέεν ἀγλαὸν ὕδωρ·

Athene, in the likeness of a herald, commanded the army to keep silence, so that the sons of the Achaeans, both the nearest and the farthest, might hear his words and learn his counsel. He with good intent addressed their assembly and spoke among them: "Son of Atreus, now truly, O king, the Achaeans are minded to make you the most despised among all mortal men, and they will not fulfill the promise that they made to you, when coming here from Argos, the pasture land of horses, that only after having sacked well-walled Ilios would you return home. For like little children or widow women they wail to each other in longing to return home. To be sure there is toil enough to make a man go home disheartened. For anyone who is parted even one single month from his wife in his benched ship becomes impatient, especially if winter blasts and surging seas keep him away; but for us the ninth year is at its turn, and we are still here; so I do not blame the Achaeans for becoming impatient beside their beaked ships; but even so it is a shameful thing to stay away long and return empty-handed. Endure, my friends, and stay for a time, that we may know whether the prophecies of Calchas are true or not. For this indeed we know well in our hearts, and you are all witnesses to it, those whom the fates of death have not carried off. It was but as yesterday or the day before, when the ships of the Achaeans were gathering in Aulis, bringing woes for Priam and the Trojans; and round a spring we were offering perfect hecatombs to the immortals on the holy altars, beneath a fair plane tree from which flowed the

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<sup>25</sup> ἀσχαλάαν . . . κορωνίσιν: ἀσχαλάαν μιμνόντεσσι (μίμνοντ' ἐπὶ νήεσσ'?) Zenodotus.

- ἐνθ' ἐφάνη μέγα σῆμα· δράκων ἐπὶ νῶτα δαφεινός,  
 σμερδαλέος, τόν ῥ' αὐτὸς Ὀλύμπιος ἦκε φώωσδε,  
 310 βωμοῦ ὑπαῖξας πρὸς ῥα πλατάνιστον ὄρουσεν.  
 ἔνθα δ' ἔσαν στρουθοῖο νεοσσοί, νήπια τέκνα,  
 ὅζω ἐπ' ἀκροτάτῳ, πετάλοις ὑποπεπτηῶτες,  
 ὀκτώ, ἀτὰρ μήτηρ ἐνάτη ἦν, ἣ τέκε τέκνα.  
 ἐνθ' ὃ γε τοὺς ἐλεεινὰ κατήσθιε τετριγῶτας.<sup>26</sup>  
 315 μήτηρ δ' ἀμφιποτᾶτο ὀδυρομένη φίλα τέκνα·  
 τὴν δ' ἐλελιζάμενος πτέρυγος λάβεν ἀμφιαχυῖαν.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κατὰ τέκν' ἔφαγε στρουθοῖο καὶ αὐτήν,  
 τὸν μὲν αἰζήλον<sup>27</sup> θῆκεν θεός, ὅς περ ἔφηνε·  
 λᾶαν γάρ μιν ἔθηκε Κρόνου παῖς ἀγκυλομήτεω.<sup>28</sup>  
 320 ἡμεῖς δ' ἑσταότες θαυμάζομεν οἶον ἐτύχθη.  
 ὥς οὖν δεινὰ πέλωρα θεῶν εἰσῆλθ' ἐκατόμβας,  
 Κάλχας δ' αὐτίκ' ἔπειτα θεοπροπέων ἀγόρευε·  
 'τίπτ' ἄνεφ' ἐγένεσθε, κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοί;  
 ἡμῖν μὲν τόδ' ἔφηνε τέρας μέγα μητίετα Ζεὺς,  
 325 ὄψιμον, ὀσιτέλεστον, ὅου κλέος οὐ ποτ' ὀλείται.  
 ὥς οὗτος κατὰ τέκν' ἔφαγε στρουθοῖο καὶ αὐτήν,  
 ὀκτώ, ἀτὰρ μήτηρ ἐνάτη ἦν, ἣ τέκε τέκνα,  
 ὥς ἡμεῖς τοσσαῦτ' ἔτεα πτολεμίζομεν αὖθι,  
 τῷ δεκάτῳ δὲ πόλιν αἰρήσομεν εὐρυνάγυιαν.  
 330 κεῖνος τὼς ἀγόρευε· τὰ δὲ νῦν πάντα τελείται.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε, μίμνετε πάντες, ἐυκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοί,  
 αὐτοῦ, εἰς ὃ κεν ἄστυ μέγα Πριάμοιο ἔλωμεν."  
 ὣς ἔφατ', Ἀργεῖοι δὲ μέγ' ἴαχον, ἀμφὶ δὲ νῆες

<sup>26</sup> τετριγῶτας: τιτίζοντας Zenodotus.

bright water; then appeared a great portent: a serpent, blood-red on its back, terrible, which the Olympian himself had sent into the light, glided from beneath the altar and darted to the plane tree. Now on this tree were the nestlings of a sparrow, tender little ones, on the topmost bough, cowering beneath the leaves, eight in all, and the mother that bore them was the ninth. Then the serpent devoured them as they twittered piteously, and the mother flitted around them, wailing for her dear little ones; but he coiled himself and caught her by the wing as she screamed at him. But when he had devoured the sparrow's little ones and the mother with them the god who had brought him to the light made him disappear; for the son of crooked-counseling Cronos turned him to stone; and we stood there and marveled at what had happened. So, when the dread portent interrupted the hecatombs of the gods, then immediately Calchas prophesied, and addressed our assembly, saying: 'Why are you silent, long-haired Achaeans? To us has Zeus the counselor showed this great sign, late in coming, late in fulfillment, the fame of which shall never perish. Just as this serpent devoured the sparrow's little ones and the mother with them—all eight, and the mother that bore them was the ninth—so shall we war there for as many years, but in the tenth we shall take the broad-wayed city.' Thus spoke Calchas, and now all this is being brought to pass. But come, remain all you well-greaved Achaeans, just where you are, until we take the great city of Priam."

So he spoke, and the Argives shouted aloud, and all

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<sup>27</sup> αἰζηλον: ἀρίζηλον, ἀρίδηλον Zenodotus.

<sup>28</sup> Line 319 was rejected by Aristarchus.

- σμερδαλέον κονάβησαν ἀνσάντων ὑπ' Ἀχαιῶν,  
 335 μῦθον ἐπαινήσαντες Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο.  
 τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπε Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
 “ὦ πόποι, ἦ δὴ παισὶν εἰκότες ἀγοράασθε  
 νηπιάχοις, οἷς οὔ τι μέλει πολεμῆια ἔργα.  
 πῇ δὴ συνθεσῖαι τε καὶ ὄρκια βήσεται ἡμιν;  
 340 ἐν πυρὶ δὴ βουλαί τε γενοίαιτο μῆδεά τ' ἀνδρῶν,  
 σπονδαί τ' ἄκρητοι καὶ δεξιαί, ἧς ἐπέπιθμεν·  
 αὐτῶς γὰρ ἐπέεσσ' ἐριδαίνομεν, οὐδέ τι μῆχος  
 εὐρέμεναι δυνάμεσθα, πολὺν χρόνον ἐνθάδ' ἐόντες.  
 Ἀτρεΐδῃ, σὺ δ' ἔθ' ὥς πρὶν ἔχων ἀστεμφέα βουλήν  
 345 ἄρχεν' Ἀργείοισι κατὰ κρατερὰς ὑσμίνας,  
 τούσδε δ' ἔα φθινύθειν, ἓνα καὶ δύο, τοί κεν Ἀχαιῶν  
 νόσφιν βουλεύωσ'—ἄνυσις δ' οὐκ ἔσσεται αὐτῶν—  
 πρὶν Ἀργοσδ' ἰέναι, πρὶν καὶ Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο  
 γνόμεναι εἶτε ψεύδος ὑπόσχεσις, εἶτε καὶ οὐκί.  
 350 φημὶ γὰρ οὖν κατανεῦσαι ὑπερμενέα Κρονίωνα  
 ἡματι τῷ ὅτε νηυσὶν ἐν ὠκυπόροισιν ἔβαινον  
 Ἀργεῖοι Τρώεσσι φόνον καὶ κῆρα φέροντες·  
 ἀστράπτων ἐπιδέξι', ἐναίσιμα σήματα φαίνων.  
 τῷ μή τις πρὶν ἐπειγέσθω οἰκόνδε νέεσθαι,  
 355 πρὶν τινα παρ Τρώων ἀλόχῳ κατακοιμηθῆναι,  
 τίσασθαι δ' Ἑλένης ὀρμήματά τε στοναχάς τε.  
 εἰ δέ τις ἐκπάγλως ἐθέλει οἰκόνδε νέεσθαι,  
 ἀπτέσθω ἧς νηὸς εὐσσέλμοιο μελαίνης,  
 ὄφρα πρόσθ' ἄλλων θάνατον καὶ πότμον ἐπίσπῃ.  
 360 ἀλλὰ, ἄναξ, αὐτός τ' εὖ μῆδεο πείθεό τ' ἄλλω·  
 οὐ τοι ἀπόβλητον ἔπος ἔσσεται, ὅττι κεν εἴπω·

## BOOK 2

around them the ships echoed wondrously at the shouting of the Achaeans, as they praised the words of godlike Odysseus. And there spoke among them the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: "Well, now! You are holding assembly like silly boys that care not for deeds of war. What then is to be the end of our compacts and our oaths? Into the fire let us cast all counsels and plans of warriors, the drink-offerings of unmixed wine, and the handclasps in which we put our trust. For we are vainly wrangling with words, and we can find no solution at all, though we have been here for a long time. Son of Atreus, still as before keep unbending purpose, and be leader of the Argives through mighty combats; as for those, let them perish, the one or two of the Achaeans who take secret counsel separately from the rest—but no accomplishment will come from them—to depart to Argos even before we have learned whether the promise of Zeus who bears the aegis is a lie or not. For I declare that Cronos' son, supreme in might, promised with a nod of his head on that day when the Argives went on board their swift-faring ships, bringing death and fate to the Trojans; for he lightened on our right and displayed favorable signs. So let no man make haste to depart homewards until each has lain with the wife of some Trojan, and has got requital for his strivings and groanings over Helen. But if any man is desperately anxious to depart for home, let him lay his hand on his black, well-benched ship, so that in the presence of the others he may meet death and fate. But you, King, take good counsel yourself, and listen to another; not easily cast aside will be the word that I speak.

- κρίν' ἄνδρας κατὰ φύλα, κατὰ φρήτρας, Ἀγάμεμνον,  
 ὡς φρήτρη φρήτρηφιν ἀρήγη, φύλα δὲ φύλοις.  
 εἰ δέ κεν ὡς ἔρξης καὶ τοι πείθωνται Ἀχαιοί,  
 365 γνώσῃ ἔπειθ' ὅς θ' ἡγεμόνων κακὸς ὅς τέ νυ λαῶν,  
 ἦδ' ὅς κ' ἐσθλὸς ἔησι κατὰ σφέας γὰρ μαχέονται  
 γνώσεαι δ' εἰ καὶ θεσπεσίῃ πόλιν οὐκ ἀλαπάξεις,  
 ἣ ἀνδρῶν κακότητι καὶ ἀφραδίῃ πολέμοιο.”
- Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη κρείων Ἀγα-  
 μέμνων·
- 370 “ἦ μὰν αὖτ' ἀγορῇ νικᾷς, γέρον, υἱᾶς Ἀχαιῶν.  
 αἶ γὰρ Ζεῦ τε πάτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίῃ καὶ Ἄπολλον  
 τοιοῦτοί δέκα μοι συμφράδμονες εἶεν Ἀχαιῶν·  
 τῷ κε τάχ' ἡμύσειε πόλις Πριάμοιο ἄνακτος  
 χερσὶν ὑφ' ἡμετέρησιν ἀλοῦσά τε περθομένη τε.  
 375 ἀλλὰ μοι αἰγίοχος Κρονίδης Ζεὺς ἄλγε' ἔδωκεν,  
 ὅς με μετ' ἀπρήκτους ἔριδας καὶ νείκεα βάλλει.  
 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼν Ἀχιλεὺς τε μαχεσσάμεθ' εἵνεκα κούρης  
 ἀντιβίοις ἐπέεσσιν, ἐγὼ δ' ἦρχον χαλεπαίνων·  
 εἰ δέ ποτ' ἔς γε μίαν βουλεύσομεν, οὐκέτ' ἔπειτα  
 380 Τρῳσὶν ἀνάβλησις κακοῦ ἔσσεται, οὐδ' ἡβαιόν.  
 νῦν δ' ἔρχεσθ' ἐπὶ δείπνον, ἵνα ξυνάγωμεν Ἄρηα.  
 εὖ μὲν τις δόρυ θηξάσθω, εὖ δ' ἀσπίδα θέσθω,  
 εὖ δέ τις ἵπποισιν δείπνον δότῳ ὠκνπόδεσσιν,  
 εὖ δέ τις ἄρματος ἀμφὶς ἰδὼν πολέμοιο μεδέσθω,  
 385 ὥς κε πανημέριοι στυγερῷ κρινώμεθ' Ἄρηι.  
 οὐ γὰρ παυσωλή γε μετέσσεται, οὐδ' ἡβαιόν,  
 εἰ μὴ νύξ ἐλθοῦσα διακρινέει μένος ἀνδρῶν.  
 ἰδρώσει μὲν τευ τελαμῶν ἀμφὶ στήθεσφιν



## BOOK 2

Separate the men by tribes, by clans, Agamemnon, so that clan may aid clan and tribe tribe. If you do this, and the Achaeans obey you, you will know then which of the leaders is a coward, and which of the men, and also which is brave; for each clan will fight for itself. And you will know whether it is the will of heaven that prevents your taking the city, or the cowardice of the men and their ignorance in war."

In answer to him spoke the king, Agamemnon: "Once again, old sir, you surpass in speech the sons of the Achaeans. I wish, father Zeus and Athene and Apollo, that I had ten such counselors among the Achaeans; then would the city of king Priam immediately bow its head, taken and sacked by our hands. But the son of Cronos, Zeus who bears the aegis, has brought me sorrows, casting me into fruitless strifes and wranglings. For I and Achilles fought about a girl with violent words, and it was I that became angry first; but if ever we are at one in counsel, then there will be no more putting off of evil for the Trojans, not for a moment. But now all of you go to your meal, so that then we may join battle. Let every man whet well his spear and keep his shield ready, and let him well give food to his swift-footed horses, and looking well to his chariot on every side let him meditate on war so that all day long we may contend in hateful battle. For of rest there will be none, not for a moment, until night comes on and parts the fury of warriors. Wet with sweat about the chest of many a man

- ἀσπίδος ἀμφιβρότης, περὶ δ' ἔγχεϊ χεῖρα καμείται·  
 390 ἰδρώσει δέ τευ ἵππος ἐύξοον ἄρμα τιταίνων.  
 ὃν δέ κ' ἐγὼν ἀπάνευθε μάχης ἐθέλοντα νοήσω  
 μιμνάζειν παρὰ νηυσὶ κορωνίσιν, οὗ οἱ ἔπειτα  
 ἄρκιον ἐσσεῖται φυγέειν κύνας ἡδ' οἰωνούς.”  
 Ὡς ἔφατ', Ἀργεῖοι δὲ μέγ' ἴαχον ὥς ὅτε κῦμα  
 395 ἀκτῇ ἐφ' ὑψηλῇ, ὅτε κινήσῃ Νότος ἐλθών,  
 προβλήτι σκοπέλω· τὸν δ' οὐ ποτε κύματα λείπει  
 παντοίων ἀνέμων, ὅτ' ἂν ἔνθ' ἢ ἔνθα γένωνται.  
 ἀνστάντες δ' ὀρέοντο κεδασθέντες κατὰ νῆας,  
 κάπνισσάν τε κατὰ κλισίας, καὶ δεῖπνον ἔλοντο.  
 400 ἄλλον δ' ἄλλω ἔρεξε θεῶν αἰειγενετάων,  
 εὐχόμενος θάνατόν τε φυγεῖν καὶ μῶλον Ἄρηος.  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ βοῦν ἰέρευσεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων  
 πίονα πενταέτηρον ὑπερμενεί Κρονίῳνι,  
 κίκλησκεν δὲ γέροντας ἀριστῆας Παναχαιῶν,  
 405 Νέστορα μὲν πρότιστα καὶ Ἴδομενῆα ἄνακτα,  
 αὐτὰρ ἔπειτ' Αἴαντε δύω καὶ Τυδέος υἱόν,  
 ἕκτον δ' αὖτ' Ὀδυσῆα, Διὶ μῆτιν ἀτάλαντον.  
 αὐτόματος δέ οἱ ἦλθε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος·  
 ἦδ' ἔε γὰρ κατὰ θυμὸν ἀδελφεὸν ὥς ἐπονείτο.  
 410 βοῦν δὲ περιστήσαντο καὶ οὐλοχύτας ἀνέλοντο·  
 τοῖσιν δ' εὐχόμενος μετέφη κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 “Ζεῦ κύδιστε μέγιστε, κελαινεφές, αἰθέρι ναίων,  
 μὴ πρὶν ἐπ' ἥελιον δῦναι καὶ ἐπὶ κνέφας ἐλθεῖν,  
 πρὶν με κατὰ πρηγνὲς βαλέειν Πριάμοιο μέλαθρον  
 415 αἰθαλόεν, πρῆσαι<sup>29</sup> δὲ πυρὸς δηίοιο θύρετρα,  
 Ἐκτόρεον δὲ χιτῶνα περὶ στήθεσσι δαΐξαι

## BOOK 2

will be the strap of his sheltering shield, and about the spear will his hand grow weary, and wet with sweat will a man's horse be, as it strains at the polished chariot. But whomever I see minded to stay back beside the beaked ships away from the fight, for him then there shall be no hope of escaping the dogs and birds."

So he spoke, and the Argives shouted aloud with the noise as of a wave against a high headland, when the South Wind comes and makes it swell—against a jutting crag that is never left by the waves of all the winds that come from this side or that. And they arose and rushed to scatter among the ships, and made fires in the huts, and took their meal. And they made sacrifice to the gods who are for ever, one to one god, another to another, with the prayer that they might escape from death and the tumult of war. But Agamemnon, lord of men, sacrificed a fat bull of five years to the son of Cronos, supreme in might, and had the elders called, the chief men of the Achaean army, Nestor, first of all, and king Idomeneus, and then the two Aiantes and the son of Tydeus, and as the sixth Odysseus, the peer of Zeus in counsel. And uncalled came to him Menelaus, good at the war cry, for he knew in his heart how his brother was occupied. Around the bull they stood and took up the barley grains, and in prayer lord Agamemnon spoke among them, saying: "Zeus, most glorious, most great, lord of the dark clouds, who dwell in the sky, let not the sun go down, nor darkness come on us, until I have cast down headlong Priam's halls, blackened with smoke, and have burned its gates with consuming fire, and split Hector's tunic about

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<sup>29</sup> *πρῆσαι: πλῆσαι* Aristarchus (cf. 9. 242).

χαλκῷ ῥωγαλέον· πολέες δ' ἄμφ' αὐτὸν ἑταῖροι  
πρηνέες ἐν κονίησιν ὁδὰξ λαζοίατο γαῖαν·”

420 ὣς ἔφατ' οὐδ' ἄρα πώ οἱ ἐπεκράαινε Κρονίων,  
ἀλλ' ὃ γε δέκτο μὲν ἱρά, πόνον δ' ἀμέγαρτον<sup>30</sup>  
ὄφελλεν.

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' εὔξαντο καὶ οὐλοχύτας προβάλοντο,  
αὔερυσαν μὲν πρῶτα καὶ ἔσφαξαν καὶ ἔδειραν,  
μηρούς τ' ἐξέταμον κατὰ τε κνίσῃ ἐκάλυψαν  
δίπτυχα ποιήσαντες, ἐπ' αὐτῶν δ' ὠμοθέτησαν.

425 καὶ τὰ μὲν ἄρ σχίζουσιν ἀφύλλοισιν κατέκαιον,  
σπλάγχνα δ' ἄρ' ἀμπείραντες ὑπείρεχον Ἑφαίστοιο.  
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κατὰ μῆρ' ἐκάη καὶ σπλάγχν' ἐπάσαντο,  
μίστυλλον τ' ἄρα τᾶλλα καὶ ἄμφ' ὀβελοῖσιν ἔπειραν,  
ᾧπτησάν τε περιφραδέως, ἐρύσαντό τε πάντα.

430 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ παύσαντο πόνον τετύκοντό τε δαῖτα,  
δαίνυντ', οὐδέ τι θυμὸς ἐδεύετο δαιτὸς εἴσης.  
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,  
τοῖς ἄρα μύθων ἦρχε Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·

“Ἀτρεΐδῃ κύδιστε, ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγάμεμνον,  
435 μηκέτι νῦν δήθ' αὖθι<sup>31</sup> λεγώμεθα μηδ' ἔτι δηρὸν  
ἀμβαλλώμεθα ἔργον, ὃ δὴ θεὸς ἐγγυαλίζει.

ἀλλ' ἄγε, κήρυκες μὲν Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων  
λαὸν κηρύσσοντες ἀγειρόντων κατὰ νῆας,  
ἡμεῖς δ' ἀθρόοι ὦδε κατὰ στρατὸν εὐρὺν Ἀχαιῶν  
440 ἴομεν, ὅφρα κε θᾶσσον ἐγείρομεν ὄξυν Ἄρηα.”

ὣς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθησεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγα-  
μέμνων.

his breast, tattered by the bronze; and may many of his comrades about him fall headlong in the dust, and bite the earth."

So he spoke; but not yet would the son of Cronos grant him fulfillment; he accepted the sacrifice, but he continued to increase the toil of war. Then, when they had prayed, and had sprinkled the barley grains, they first drew back the victims' heads, and cut their throats, and flayed them, and cut out the thigh pieces and enclosed them inside layers of fat, and laid raw flesh on them. These they burned on billets of wood stripped of leaves, and the innards they spitted and held over the fire of Hephaestus. But when the thigh pieces were wholly burned, and they had tasted the innards, they cut up the rest into pieces and spitted them, and roasted them carefully, and drew them all off. Then, when they had ceased from their labor and had made ready the meal, they feasted, and their hearts lacked nothing of the equal banquet. But when they had put from them the desire for food and drink, among them the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, was first to speak, saying: "Most glorious son of Atreus, Agamemnon, lord of men, let us now no longer remain gathered here, nor any longer put off a work which the god puts in our hand. But come, let the heralds of the bronze-clad Achaeans make proclamation, and gather together the army throughout the ships, and let us go in a body through the broad camp of the Achaeans, so that we may the more quickly stir up keen Ares."

So he spoke, and the lord of men, Agamemnon, did not

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<sup>30</sup> ἀμέγαρτον: ἀλίσστον Aristarchus.

<sup>31</sup> νῦν δὲ θ' αὖθι: νῦν δὲ ταῦτα Zenodotus.

αὐτίκα κηρύκεσσι λιγυφθόγγοισι κέλευσε  
κηρύσσειν πόλεμόνδε κάρη κομόωντας Ἀχαιοὺς·  
οἱ μὲν ἐκήρυσσον, τοὶ δ' ἠγείροντο μάλ' ὤκα.

445 οἱ δ' ἄμφ' Ἀτρεΐωνα διοτρεφέες βασιλῆες  
θῦνον κρίνοντας, μετὰ δὲ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,  
αἰγίδ' ἔχουσ' ἐρίτιμον ἀγήραον ἀθανάτην τε,  
τῆς ἑκατὸν θύσανοι παγχρύσειοι ἠερέθονται,  
πάντες ἐνπλεκέες, ἑκατόμβοιοι δὲ ἕκαστος.

450 σὺν τῇ παιφάσσουσα διέσσυτο λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν  
ὀτρύνουσ' ἰέναι· ἐν δὲ σθένος ὤρσεν ἑκάστω  
καρδίῃ ἄλληκτον πολεμίζειν ἥδὲ μάχεσθαι.  
τοῖσι δ' ἄφαρ πόλεμος γλυκίων γένετ' ἢ ἐνέεσθαι  
ἐν νηυσὶ γλαφυρῇσι φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν.

455 Ἦύτε πύρ αἰδήλον ἐπιφλέγει ἄσπετον ὕλην  
οὔρεος ἐν κορυφῇς, ἕκαθεν δέ τε φαίνεται αὐγή,  
ὥς τῶν ἐρχομένων ἀπὸ χαλκοῦ θεσπεσίοιο  
αἴγλη παμφανόωσα δι' αἰθέρος οὐρανὸν ἵκε.

Τῶν δ', ὥς τ' ὀρνίθων πετεηνῶν ἔθνεα πολλὰ,  
460 χηνῶν ἢ γεράνων ἢ κύκνων δουλιχοδείρων,  
Ἀσίῳ ἐν λειμῶνι, Καῦστρίου ἀμφὶ ῥέεθρα,  
ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα ποτῶνται ἀγαλλόμενα πτερύγεσσι,  
κλαγγηδὸν προκαθιζόντων, σμαραγεῖ δέ τε λειμῶν,<sup>32</sup>  
ὥς τῶν ἔθνεα πολλὰ νεῶν ἄπο καὶ κλισιάων  
465 ἐς πεδίον προχέοντο Σκαμάνδριον· αὐτὰρ ὑπὸ χθῶν  
σμερδαλέον κονάβιζε ποδῶν αὐτῶν τε καὶ ἵππων.  
ἔσταν δ' ἐν λειμῶνι Σκαμανδρίῳ ἀνθεμόεντι  
μυρίοι, ὅσσα τε φύλλα καὶ ἄνθεα γίγνεται ὥρη.

Ἦύτε μυιάων ἀδινάων ἔθνεα πολλὰ,

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fail to obey. At once he commanded the clear-voiced heralds to summon the long-haired Achaeans to battle. And they made summons, and the army gathered very quickly. The kings, nurtured by Zeus, who were with Atreus' son dashed about swiftly, marshaling the army, and with them was the flashing-eyed Athene, holding the priceless aegis, that knows neither age nor death, from which hang a hundred golden tassels, all fine-woven, and each one worth a hundred oxen. With it she sped dazzling through the army of the Achaeans, urging them on; and in the heart of each man she roused strength to war and to fight without ceasing. And to them at once war became sweeter than to return in their hollow ships to their dear native land.

Just as a consuming fire makes a boundless forest blaze on the peaks of a mountain, and from afar can the glare be seen, so from their magnificent bronze, as they marched out, went the dazzling gleam through the sky to the heavens.

And as the many tribes of winged birds, wild geese or cranes or long-necked swans on the Asian meadow by the streams of Caÿstrius, fly here and there, glorying in their strength of wing, and with loud cries settle ever onwards, and the meadow resounds, so their many tribes poured out of the ships and huts into the plain of Scamander, and the earth resounded terribly beneath the tread of men and horses. And they stood in the flowery meadow of Scamander, countless, as are the leaves and flowers in their season.

Just as the many tribes of swarming flies that buzz about

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<sup>32</sup> λειμών: γὰρ Aristarchus.

470 αἶ τε κατὰ σταθμὸν ποιμνήιον ἡλάσκουσιν  
 ὥρῃ ἐν εἰαρινῇ, ὅτε τε γλᾶγος ἄγγεα δεύει,  
 τόσσοι ἐπὶ Τρώεσσι κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 ἐν πεδίῳ ἴσταντο διαρραῖσαι μεμαῶτες.

Τοὺς δ', ὥς τ' αἰπόλια πλατέ' αἰγῶν αἰπόλοι ἄνδρες  
 475 ῥεῖα διακρίνωσιν, ἐπεὶ κε νομῶ μιγέωσιν,  
 ὥς τοὺς ἡγεμόνες διεκόσμεον ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα  
 ὑσμίνηνδ' ἰέναι, μετὰ δὲ κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 ὄμματα καὶ κεφαλὴν ἵκελος Διὶ τερπικεραύνῳ,  
 Ἄρεϊ δὲ ζώνην, στέρνον δὲ Ποσειδάωνι.

480 ἤνυτε βούς ἀγέληφι μέγ' ἔξοχος ἔπλετο πάντων  
 ταῦρος· ὁ γάρ τε βόεσσι μεταπρέπει ἀγρομένησι·  
 τοῖον ἄρ' Ἀτρεΐδην θῆκε Ζεὺς ἡματι κείνῳ,  
 ἐκπρεπέ' ἐν πολλοῖσι καὶ ἔξοχον ἡρώεσσιν.

Ἔσπετε νῦν μοι, Μοῦσαι Ὀλύμπια δώματ'  
 ἔχουσαι<sup>33</sup>—

485 ὑμεῖς γὰρ θεαὶ ἐστε, πάρεστε τε, ἴστέ τε πάντα,  
 ἡμεῖς δὲ κλέος οἶον ἀκούομεν οὐδέ τι ἴδμεν—  
 οἳ τινες ἡγεμόνες Δαναῶν καὶ κοίρανοι ἦσαν.  
 πληθὺν δ' οὐκ ἄν ἐγὼ μυθήσομαι οὐδ' ὀνομήνω,  
 οὐδ' εἴ μοι δέκα μὲν γλῶσσαι, δέκα δὲ στόματ' εἶεν,  
 490 φωνὴ δ' ἄρρηκτος, χάλκεον δέ μοι ἦτορ ἐνείη,  
 εἰ μὴ Ὀλυμπιάδες Μοῦσαι, Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο  
 θυγατέρες, μνησαίαθ' ὅσοι ὑπὸ Ἴλιον ἦλθον·  
 ἀρχοὺς αὖ νηῶν ἐρέω νηῆάς τε προπάσας.

<sup>33</sup> Ὀλύμπια . . . ἔχουσαι: Ὀλυμπιάδες βαθύκολποι  
 Zenodotus.



## BOOK 2

the herdsman's farmstead in the season of spring, when the milk drenches the pails, in such numbers stood the long-haired Achaeans in the plain against the men of Troy, eager to destroy them utterly.

And just as goatherds easily separate the wide-scattered flocks of goats, when they mingle in the pasture, so did their leaders marshal the men on this side and that, to enter into the battle, and among them lord Agamemnon, his eyes and head like Zeus who hurls the thunderbolt, his waist like Ares, and his breast like Poseidon. As a bull in a herd stands out far the chiefest, since he is preeminent among cattle as they gather, such did Zeus make Agamemnon on that day, preeminent among many, and chiefest among warriors.

Tell me now, you Muses who have dwellings on Olympus—for you are goddesses and are present and know all things, but we hear only a rumor and know nothing—who were the leaders and lords of the Danaans. But the multitude I could not tell or name, not even if ten tongues were mine and ten mouths and a voice unwearying, and the heart within me were of bronze, unless the Muses of Olympus, daughters of Zeus who bears the aegis, call to my mind all those who came beneath Ilios. Now will I tell the leaders of the ships and all the ships.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The catalogue that follows enumerates the various contingents which made up the Greek forces at Troy in the following geographical order: (1) those from the mainland of Greece south of Thermopylae and from the adjacent islands; (2) those from the islands of the Southern Aegean from Crete to Cos and the Calydnæ; and (3) those from Northern Greece, i.e. from the region extending from Thermopylae to Mt. Olympus. M.

- Βοιωτῶν μὲν Πηνέλεως καὶ Λήϊτος ἦρχον<sup>34</sup>  
 495 Ἀρκεσίλαός τε Προθοήνωρ τε Κλονίος τε,  
 οἳ θ' Ὑρίην ἐνέμοντο καὶ Αὐλίδα πετρήεσαν  
 Σχοῖνόν τε Σκῶλόν τε πολύκημόν τ' Ἐτεωνόν,  
 Θέσπειαν Γραϊάν τε καὶ εὐρύχορον Μυκαλησσόν,  
 οἳ τ' ἀμφ' Ἄρμ' ἐνέμοντο καὶ Εἰλέσιον καὶ Ἐρυθράς,  
 500 οἳ τ' Ἐλεῶν' εἶχον ἥδ' Ὑλην καὶ Πετεῶνα,  
 Ὠκαλέην Μεδεῶνά τ', ἐνκτίμενον πτολίεθρον,  
 Κώπας Εὐτρησίην τε πολυτρήρωνά τε Θίσβην,<sup>35</sup>  
 οἳ τε Κορώνειαν καὶ ποιήενθ' Ἀλίαρτον,  
 οἳ τε Πλάταιαν ἔχον ἥδ' οἳ Γλισᾶντ' ἐνέμοντο,  
 505 οἳ θ' Ὑποθήβας εἶχον, ἐνκτίμενον πτολίεθρον,  
 Ὀγχηστόν θ' ἱερόν, Ποσιδήϊον ἀγλαὸν ἄλσος,  
 οἳ τε πολυστάφυλον Ἄρνην<sup>36</sup> ἔχον, οἳ τε Μίδειαν  
 Νῆσάν τε ζαθέην Ἀνθηδόνα τ' ἐσχατώσαν.  
 τῶν μὲν πεντήκοντα νέες κίον, ἐν δὲ ἐκάστη  
 510 κούροι Βοιωτῶν ἑκατὸν καὶ εἴκοσι βαῖνον.  
 Οἳ δ' Ἀσπληδόνα ναῖον ἰδ' Ὀρχομενὸν Μινύειον,  
 τῶν ἦρχ' Ἀσκάλαφος καὶ Ἰάλμενος, υἱὲς Ἄρης,  
 οὓς τέκεν Ἀστυόχη δόμῳ Ἄκτορος Ἀζειίδαο,  
 παρθένος αἰδοίη, ὑπερώϊον εἰσαναβᾶσα,  
 515 Ἄρηι κρατερῷ. ὁ δέ οἱ παρελέξατο λάθρῃ.  
 τοῖς δὲ τριήκοντα γλαφυραὶ νέες ἐστιχόωντο.  
 Αὐτὰρ Φωκίων Σχεδῖος καὶ Ἐπίστροφος ἦρχον,  
 υἱὲς Ἰφίτου μεγαθύμου Ναυβολίδαο,  
 οἳ Κυπάρισσον ἔχον Πυθῶνά τε πετρήεσαν  
 520 Κρίσάν τε ζαθέην καὶ Δαυλίδα καὶ Πανοπῆα,  
 οἳ τ' Ἀνεμώρειαν καὶ Ἰάμπολιν ἀμφινέμοντο,

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The Boeotians were led by Peneleos and Leïtus, and Arcesilaus and Prothoënor and Clonius; these were they who dwelt in Hyria and rocky Aulis and Schoenus and Scolus and Eteonus with its many ridges, Thespeia, Graea, and spacious Mycalessus; and who dwelt around Harma and Eilesium and Erythrae; and who held Eleon and Hyle and Peteon, Ocalea and Medeon, the well-built citadel, Copae, Eutresis, and Thisbe, the haunt of doves; and who dwelt in Coroneia and grassy Haliartus, and who held Plataea and dwelt in Glisas; and they who held lower Thebes, the well-built citadel, and holy Onchestus, the bright grove of Poseidon; and they who held Arne, rich in vines, and Mideia and sacred Nisa and Anthedon on the seashore. Of these there came fifty ships, and on each went one hundred and twenty young men of the Boeotians.

And they who dwelt in Aspledon and Orchomenus of the Minyae were led by Ascalaphus and Ialmenus, sons of Ares, whom, in the house of Actor, son of Azeus, Astyoche, the respected maiden, bore to mighty Ares, when she had gone up to her room; for he lay with her in secret. And with these were ranged thirty hollow ships.

And the Phocians were led by Schedius and Epistrophus, sons of great-hearted Iphitus, son of Naubolus; these were they who held Cyparissus and rocky Pytho, and sacred Crisa and Daulis and Panopeus; and who dwelt about Anemoreia and Hyampolis; and who lived beside the noble

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<sup>34</sup> Lines 494–877 are omitted in some MSS and in a few are placed after the end of Book 24.

<sup>35</sup> Θίσβην: Μέσσην Zenodotus.

<sup>36</sup> Ἀρνὴν: Ἄσκηρην Zenodotus.

οἳ τ' ἄρα παρ ποταμὸν Κηφισὸν δῖον ἔναιον,  
οἳ τε Λίλαιαν ἔχον πηγῆς ἔπι Κηφισοῖο.  
τοῖς δ' ἅμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαιναι νῆες ἔποντο.

525 οἱ μὲν Φωκῆων στίχας ἴστασαν ἀμφιέποντες,  
Βοιωτῶν δ' ἔμπλην ἐπ' ἀριστερὰ θωρήσσοντο.

Λοκρῶν δ' ἡγεμόνευεν Ὀϊλῆος ταχὺς Αἴας,  
μείων, οὗ τι τόσος γε ὅσος Τελαμώνιος Αἴας,<sup>37</sup>  
ἀλλὰ πολὺ μείων. ὀλίγος μὲν ἔην, λινοθώρηξ,  
530 ἐγχείῃ δ' ἐκέκαστο Πανέλληνας καὶ Ἀχαιοὺς·  
οἳ Κῦνόν τ' ἐνέμοντ' Ὀπόεντά τε Καλλίαρόν τε  
Βῆσσαν τε Σκάρφην τε καὶ Αὐγειαῖς ἐρατεινὰς  
Τάρφην τε Θρόνιον τε Βοαγρίου ἀμφὶ ῥέεθρα.  
τῷ δ' ἅμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαιναι νῆες ἔποντο  
535 Λοκρῶν, οἳ ναίουσι πέρην ἱερῆς Εὐβοίης.

Οἳ δ' Εὐβοίαν ἔχον μένεα πνεύοντες Ἀβαντες,  
Χαλκίδα τ' Εἰρέτριάν τε πολυστάφυλόν θ' Ἰστίαϊαν  
Κήρινθόν τ' ἔφαλον Δίου τ' αἰπὺν πτολίεθρον,  
οἳ τε Κάρυστον ἔχον ἥδ' οἳ Στύρα ναιετάασκον,  
540 τῶν αὖθ' ἡγεμόνευ' Ἐλεφήνωρ, ὅζος Ἄρῃος,  
Χαλκωδοντιάδης, μεγαθύμων ἀρχὸς Ἀβάντων.  
τῷ δ' ἅμ' Ἀβαντες ἔποντο θοοί, ὅπιθεν κομόωντες,  
αἰχμηταὶ μεμαῶτες ὀρεκτῆσιν μελίησι  
θώρηκας ῥήξειν δηίων ἀμφὶ στήθεσσι.  
545 τῷ δ' ἅμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαιναι νῆες ἔποντο.

Οἳ δ' ἄρ' Ἀθήνας εἶχον, ἐνκτίμενον πτολίεθρον,  
δῆμον Ἐρεχθίδος μεγαλήτορος, ὃν ποτ' Ἀθήνη  
θρέψε Διὸς θυγάτηρ, τέκε δὲ ζεῖδωρος ἄρουρα·  
καδ δ' ἐν Ἀθήνης εἶσεν, ἐὼ ἐν πίοι νηῶ·

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river Cephissus, and who held Lilaëa by the springs of Cephissus. With these followed forty black ships. And their leaders were busily stationing the ranks of the Phocians, and were making them ready for battle close to the Boeotians on the left.

And of the Locrians the swift son of Oileus was leader, Aias the lesser, in no way as great as Telamonian Aias, but lesser by far. Short he was, with corselet of linen, but with the spear he surpassed Panhellenes and Achaeans. These were they who dwelt in Cynus and Opoeis and Calliarus and Bessa and Scarphe and lovely Augeiaë and Tarphe and Thronium around the streams of Boagrius. With Aias followed forty black ships of the Locrians who live across from holy Euboea.

And the Abantes, breathing fury, who held Euboea and Chalcis and Eretria and Histiaëa, rich in vines, and Cerinthus by the sea, and the steep citadel of Dion; and they who held Carystus and dwelt in Styra—of these in turn Elephenor was the leader, offshoot of Ares, son of Chalcodon and leader of the great-hearted Abantes. And with him followed the swift Abantes, with hair long at the back, spearmen eager with outstretched ashen spears to tear the corselets about the chests of the foe. And with him there followed forty black ships.

And they who held Athens, the well-built citadel, the land of great-hearted Erechtheus, whom Athene, daughter of Zeus, once nurtured, but the earth, the giver of grain, bore him; and she settled him in Athens, in her own

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<sup>37</sup> Line 528 was rejected by Zenodotus.

- 550 ἔνθα δέ μιν ταύροισι καὶ ἄρνειοῖς ἰλάονται  
 κοῦροι Ἀθηναίων περιτελλομένων ἐνιαυτῶν·  
 τῶν αὐθ' ἡγεμόνευ' υἱὸς Πετῆω Μενεσθεύς.  
 τῷ δ' οὐ πῶ τις ὁμοῖος ἐπιχθόνιος γένετ' ἀνὴρ<sup>38</sup>  
 κοσμήσαι ἵππους τε καὶ ἀνέρας ἀσπιδιώτας·  
 555 Νέστωρ οἷος ἔριζεν· ὁ γὰρ προγενέστερος ἦεν.  
 τῷ δ' ἅμα πεντήκοντα μέλαινα νῆες ἔποντο.  
 Αἴας δ' ἐκ Σαλαμῖνος ἄγεν δυοκαίδεκα νῆας,  
 στήσε δ' ἄγων ἔν' Ἀθηναίων ἴσταντο φάλαγγες.<sup>39</sup>  
 Οἱ δ' Ἄργος τ' εἶχον Τίρυνθά τε τειχιόεσσαν,  
 560 Ἑρμιόνην Ἀσίνην τε, βαθὺν κατὰ κόλπον ἐχούσας,  
 Τροίζην Ἡϊόνας τε καὶ ἀμπελόεντ' Ἐπίδauρον,  
 οἳ τ' ἔχον Αἴγινα Μάσητά τε κοῦροι Ἀχαιῶν,  
 τῶν αὐθ' ἡγεμόνευε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης  
 καὶ Σθένελος, Καπανῆος ἀγακλειτοῦ φίλος υἱός.  
 565 τοῖσι δ' ἅμ' Εὐρύαλος τρίτατος κίεν, ἰσόθεος φῶς,  
 Μηκιστέος υἱὸς Ταλαϊονίδαο ἀνακτος·  
 συμπάντων δ' ἡγείτο βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης.  
 τοῖσι δ' ἅμ' ὀγδώκοντα μέλαινα νῆες ἔποντο.  
 Οἱ δὲ Μυκῆνας εἶχον, ἐνκτίμενον πτολίεθρον,  
 570 ἀφνειὸν τε Κόρινθον ἐνκτιμένας τε Κλεωνάς,  
 Ὀρνειάς τ' ἐνέμοντο Ἀραιθυρέην τ' ἐρατεινὴν  
 καὶ Σικυῶν', ὅθ' ἄρ' Ἀδρηστος πρῶτ' ἐμβασίλευεν,  
 οἳ δ' Ὑπερησίην τε καὶ αἰπεινὴν Γονόεσσαν  
 Πελλήνην τ' εἶχον ἧδ' Αἴγιον ἀμφινέμοντο  
 575 Αἰγιαλὸν τ' ἀνὰ πάντα καὶ ἀμφ' Ἑλίκην εὐρείαν,  
 τῶν ἑκατὸν νηῶν ἦρχε κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 Ἀτρεΐδης. ἅμα τῷ γε πολὺ πλείστοι καὶ ἄριστοι

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rich shrine, and there the youths of the Athenians, as the years roll on in their courses, seek to win his favor with sacrifices of bulls and rams; of these in turn Menestheus, son of Peteos, was leader. No other man on the face of the earth was like him in marshaling chariots and warriors that carry shields. Only Nestor could rival him, for he was the elder. And with him there followed fifty black ships.

And Aias led from Salamis twelve ships, and stationed them where the battalions of the Athenians stood.

And they who held Argos and Tiryns, famed for its walls, and Hermione and Asine, that enfold a deep gulf, Troezen and Eionae and vine-clad Epidaurus, and the youths of the Achaeans who held Aegina and Mases—of these in turn Diomedes, good at the war cry, was leader, and Sthenelus, dear son of glorious Capaneus. And with them came a third, Euryalus, a godlike warrior, son of king Mecisteus, son of Talaus; but leader over them all was Diomedes, good at the war cry. And with them there followed eighty black ships.

And they who held Mycenae, the well-built citadel, and wealthy Corinth, and well-built Cleonae, and dwelt in Orneiae and lovely Araethyrea and Sicyon, in which first Adrastus was king; and they who held Hyperesia and steep Gonoessa and Pellene, and who dwelt around Aegium and throughout all Aegialus, and around broad Helice—of these was the son of Atreus, lord Agamemnon, in command, with one hundred ships. With him followed

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<sup>38</sup> Lines 553–555 were rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>39</sup> Line 558 was rejected by Aristarchus.

λαοὶ ἔποντ'· ἐν δ' αὐτὸς ἐδύσετο νώροπα χαλκὸν  
κυδιόων, πᾶσιν δὲ μετέπρεπεν ἡρώεσσιν,<sup>40</sup>

580 οὔνεκ' ἄριστος ἔην, πολὺ δὲ πλείστους ἄγε λαοὺς.

Οἱ δ' εἶχον κοίλην Λακεδαίμονα κητώεσσαν,  
Φᾶρίν τε Σπάρτην τε πολυτρήρωνά τε Μέσσην,  
Βρυσειάς τ' ἐνέμοντο καὶ Αὐγειαὶς ἑρατεινάς,  
οἳ τ' ἄρ' Ἀμύκλας εἶχον Ἔλος τ', ἔφαλον πτολίεθρον,  
585 οἳ τε Λάαν εἶχον ἥδ' Οἴτυλον ἀμφενέμοντο,  
τῶν οἱ ἀδελφεὸς ἦρχε, βοήν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος,  
ἐξήκοντα νεῶν· ἀπάτερθε δὲ θωρήσσοντο.

ἐν δ' αὐτὸς κίεν ἦσι προθυμίῃσι πεποιθώς,  
ὀτρύνων πόλεμόνδε· μάλιστα δὲ ἴετο θυμῷ  
590 τίσασθαι Ἑλένης ὀρμήματά τε στοναχάς τε.

Οἱ δὲ Πύλον τ' ἐνέμοντο καὶ Ἀρήνην ἑρατεινὴν  
καὶ Θρύον, Ἀλφειοῖο πόρον, καὶ εὐκτιτον Αἰπύ,  
καὶ Κυπαρισσήεντα καὶ Ἀμφιγένειαν ἔναιον,  
καὶ Πτελεὸν καὶ Ἔλος καὶ Δώριον, ἔνθα τε Μοῦσαι  
595 ἀντόμεναι Θάμυριν τὸν Θρήϊκα παῦσαν ἀοιδῆς,  
Οἰχαλίηθεν ἰόντα παρ' Εὐρύτου Οἰχαλιῆος·  
στεῦτο γὰρ εὐχόμενος νικησέμεν, εἴ περ ἂν αὐταὶ  
Μοῦσαι ἀείδοιεν, κούραι Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο·  
αἱ δὲ χολωσάμεναι πηρὸν θέσαν, αὐτὰρ ἀοιδῆν  
600 θεσπεσίην ἀφέλοντο καὶ ἐκλέλαθον κιθαριστύν·  
τῶν αὖθ' ἡγεμόνευε Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
τῷ δ' ἐνενήκοντα γλαφυραὶ νέες ἐστιχώοντο.

Οἱ δ' ἔχον Ἀρκαδίην ὑπὸ Κυλλήνης ὄρος αἰπύ,

<sup>40</sup> Lines 579 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.



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the most men by far, and the best; and among them he himself put on his gleaming bronze, a king all-glorious, and was preeminent among all the warriors, because he was noblest, and led by far the most soldiers.

And they who held the hollow land of Lacedaemon with its many ravines, and Pharis and Sparta and Messe, the haunt of doves, and who dwelt in Bryseiae and lovely Augeiae, and who held Amyclae and Helos, a citadel by the sea, and who held Laas, and dwelt about Oetylus—these were led by Agamemnon's brother, Menelaus, good at the war cry, with sixty ships; and they were marshaled apart. And he himself moved among them, confident in his zeal, urging his men to battle; and above all others was his heart eager to get requital for his strivings and groanings over Helen.

And they who dwelt in Pylos and lovely Arene and Thryum, the ford of Alpheius, and well-built Aepy, and who lived in Cyparisseis and Amphigeneia and Pteleos and Helos and Dorium, where the Muses met Thamyris the Thracian and made an end of his singing as he was journeying from Oechalia, from the house of Eurytus the Oechalian: for he declared with boasting that he would win even if the Muses themselves were to sing against him, the daughters of Zeus who bears the aegis; but they in their wrath maimed him, and took from him his wondrous singing, and made him forget his artful playing—of them in turn the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, was leader. And with him were ranged ninety hollow ships.

And they who held Arcadia beneath the steep moun-

- Αἰπύτιον παρὰ τύμβον, ἔν' ἀνέρες ἀγχιμαχηταί,  
 605 οἱ Φειεόν τ' ἐνέμοντο καὶ Ὀρχομενὸν πολύμηλον  
 ῥίπην τε Στρατίνην τε καὶ ἠνεμόεσσαν Ἐνίσπην,  
 καὶ Τεγέην εἶχον καὶ Μαντινέην ἐρατεινήν,  
 Στύμφηλόν τ' εἶχον καὶ Παρρασίην ἐνέμοντο,  
 τῶν ἦρχ' Ἀγκαΐοιο πάις, κρείων Ἀγαπήνωρ,  
 610 ἐξήκοντα νεῶν· πολέες δ' ἐν νηὶ ἐκάστη  
 Ἀρκάδες ἄνδρες ἔβαινον, ἐπιστάμενοι πολεμίζειν.  
 αὐτὸς γάρ σφιν δῶκεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων<sup>41</sup>  
 νῆας ἐυσσέλμους περάαν ἐπὶ οἶνοπα πόντον  
 Ἀτρείδης, ἐπεὶ οὐ σφί θαλάσσια ἔργα μεμήλει.  
 615 Οἱ δ' ἄρα Βουπράσιόν τε καὶ Ἥλιδα δῖαν ἔναιον,  
 ὅσσον ἔφ' Ἑρμίνην καὶ Μύρσινοσ ἐσχατόωσα  
 πέτρην τ' Ὠλενίην καὶ Ἀλήσιον ἐντὸς ἑέργει,  
 τῶν αὖ τέσσαρες ἀρχοὶ ἔσαν, δέκα δ' ἀνδρὶ ἐκάστῳ  
 νῆες ἔποντο θοαί, πολέες δ' ἔμβαινον Ἑπειοί.  
 620 τῶν μὲν ἄρ' Ἀμφίμαχος καὶ Θάλπιος ἠγησάσθην,  
 υἱὲς ὁ μὲν Κτεάτου, ὁ δ' ἄρ' Εὐρύτου, Ἀκτορίων·  
 τῶν δ' Ἀμαρυγκείδης ἦρχε κρατερὸς Διώρης·  
 τῶν δὲ τετάρτων ἦρχε Πολύξεινος θεοειδής,  
 υἱὸς Ἀγασθένης Αὐγηιάδαο ἀνακτος.  
 625 Οἱ δ' ἐκ Δουλιχίου Ἑχινάων θ' ἱεράων  
 νήσων, αἱ ναίουσι πέρην ἁλὸς Ἥλιδος ἅντα,  
 τῶν αὖθ' ἠγεμόνευε Μέγης ἀτάλαντος Ἄρηι  
 Φυλείδης, ὃν τίκτε δῖοφιλος ἱππότης Φυλεύς,  
 ὅς ποτε Δουλίχιόνδ' ἀπενάσσατο πατρὶ χολωθείς.  
 630 τῷ δ' ἅμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαινα νῆες ἔποντο.

tain of Cyllene, beside the tomb of Aepytus, where are warriors that fight in close combat; and they who dwelt in Pheneos and Orchomenus, rich in flocks, and Rhipē and Stratia and wind-swept Enispe; and they who held Tegea and lovely Mantinea; and they who held Stymphalus and dwelt in Parrhasia—these were led by the son of Ancaeus, lord Agapenor, with sixty ships; and on each ship embarked many Arcadian warriors well skilled in battle. For he himself, the lord of men, Agamemnon, had given them benched ships with which to cross over the wine-dark sea, the son of Atreus, for with seafaring they had no dealings.

And they who dwelt in Buprasium and noble Elis, all that part of it that Hyrmine and Myrsinus on the seashore and the rock of Olen and Alesium enclose between them—these in turn had four leaders, and ten swift ships followed each one, and many Epeians embarked on them. Some of them were led by Amphimachus and Thalpius, of the blood of Actor, sons, the one of Cteatus, and the other of Eurytus; and others were led by the son of Amarynceus, mighty Diores; and the fourth company was led by godlike Polyxeinus, son of king Agasthenes, Augeias' son.

And those from Dulichium and the Echinae, the holy isles, who live beyond the sea across from Elis, of these in turn Meges, the peer of Ares, the son of Phyleus, was leader, whom the horseman Phyleus, dear to Zeus, begot—he who had long ago gone to live in Dulichium angered against his father. And with Meges there followed forty black ships.

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<sup>41</sup> Lines 612–614 were rejected by Zenodotus.

Αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς ἦγε Κεφαλλήνας μεγαθύμους,  
 οἳ ῥ' Ἰθάκην εἶχον καὶ Νήριτον εἰνοσίφυλλον,  
 καὶ Κροκύλει' ἐνέμοντο καὶ Αἰγίλιπα τρηχεῖαν,  
 οἳ τε Ζάκυνθον ἔχον ἠδ' οἳ Σάμον ἀμφενέμοντο,  
 635 οἳ τ' ἠπειρον ἔχον ἠδ' ἀντιπέραι' ἐνέμοντο·  
 τῶν μὲν Ὀδυσσεὺς ἦρχε Διὶ μῆτιν ἀτάλαντος.  
 τῷ δ' ἄμα νῆες ἔποντο δυώδεκα μιλτοπάρηοι.

Αἰτωλῶν δ' ἠγεῖτο Θόας Ἀνδραίμονος υἱός,  
 οἳ Πλευρῶν' ἐνέμοντο καὶ Ὀλεον ἠδὲ Πυλὴνην  
 640 Χαλκίδα τ' ἀγχίαλον Καλυδῶνά τε πετρήεσσαν·  
 οὐ γὰρ ἔτ' Οἰνῆος μεγαλήτορος υἱέες ἦσαν,<sup>42</sup>  
 οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔτ' αὐτὸς ἔην, θάνε δὲ ξανθὸς Μελέαγρος·  
 τῷ δ' ἐπὶ πάντ' ἐτέταλτο ἀναστέμεν Αἰτωλοῖσι.  
 τῷ δ' ἄμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαινα νῆες ἔποντο.

645 Κρητῶν δ' Ἰδομενεὺς δουρικλυτὸς ἠγεμόνευεν,  
 οἳ Κνωσὸν τ' εἶχον Γόρτυνά τε τειχιόεσσαν,  
 Λύκτον Μίλητόν τε καὶ ἀργινόεντα Λύκαστον  
 Φαιστόν τε Ῥύτιόν τε, πόλεις εὐ ναιετοώσας,  
 ἄλλοι θ' οἳ Κρήτην ἐκατόμπολιν ἀμφενέμοντο.  
 650 τῶν μὲν ἄρ' Ἰδομενεὺς δουρικλυτὸς ἠγεμόνευε  
 Μηριόνης τ' ἀτάλαντος Ἐνναλίῳ ἀνδρεϊφόντῃ.  
 τοῖσι δ' ἄμ' ὀγδώκοντα μέλαινα νῆες ἔποντο.

Τληπόλεμος δ' Ἡρακλεΐδης ἡὺς τε μέγας τε  
 ἐκ Ῥόδου ἐννέα νῆας ἄγειν Ῥοδίων ἀγερώχων,  
 655 οἳ Ῥόδον ἀμφενέμοντο διὰ τρίχα κοσμηθέντες,  
 Λίνδον Ἰηλυσὸν τε καὶ ἀργινόεντα Κάμειρον.  
 τῶν μὲν Τληπόλεμος δουρικλυτὸς ἠγεμόνευεν,

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And Odysseus led the great-hearted Cephallenians who held Ithaca and Neritum, covered with waving forests, and who dwelt in Crocyleia and rugged Aegilips; and those who held Zacynthus, and who dwelt about Samos, and held the mainland and dwelt on the shores opposite the isles. These Odysseus led, the peer of Zeus in counsel. And with him there followed twelve ships with vermilion prows.

And the Aetolians were led by Thoas, Andraemon's son, they who dwelt in Pleuron and Olenus and Pylene and Chalcis, close to the sea, and rocky Calydon. For the sons of great-hearted Oeneus were no more, nor was he himself still alive, and tawny-haired Meleager had died; and on him had been laid the command that he should have absolute rule over the Aetolians. And with Thoas there followed forty black ships.

And of the Cretans Idomeneus, famed for his spear, was leader, they who held Cnosus and Gortyn, famed for its walls, Lyctus and Miletus and Lycastus, white with chalk, and Phaestus and Rhytium, well-peopled cities; and the others who dwelt in Crete of the hundred cities. Of all these Idomeneus, famed for his spear, was leader, and Meriones, the peer of Enyalios, slayer of men. And with them there followed eighty black ships.

And Tlepolemus, son of Heracles, a powerful man and tall, led from Rhodes nine ships of the lordly Rhodians, who dwelt in Rhodes divided into three groups—in Lindos and Ialysus and Cameirus, white with chalk. Of these Tlepolemus, famed for his spear, was leader, he who was

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<sup>42</sup> Lines 641 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.

- ὃν τέκεν Ἀστυόχεια βίη Ἡρακλεΐη,  
 τὴν ἄγετ' ἐξ Ἐφύρης ποταμοῦ ἅπο Σελλήεντος,  
 660 πέρσας ἄστεα πολλὰ διοτρεφέων αἰζήων.  
 Τληπόλεμος δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν τράφ' ἐνὶ μεγάρῳ ἐνπῆκτω,  
 αὐτίκα πατρὸς ἐοῖο φίλον μήτρῳα κατέκτα  
 ἤδη γηράσκοντα Δικύμνιον, ὅζον Ἄρηος.  
 αἶψα δὲ νῆας ἔπηξε, πολλὺν δ' ὃ γε λαὸν ἀγείρας  
 665 βῆ φεύγων ἐπὶ πόντον· ἀπειλήσαν γάρ οἱ ἄλλοι  
 νιέες υἱωνοὶ τε βίης Ἡρακλεΐης.  
 αὐτὰρ<sup>43</sup> ὃ γ' ἐς Ῥόδον ἵξεν ἀλώμενος, ἄλγεα πάσχων·  
 τριχθὰ δὲ ὤκηθεν καταφυλαδόν, ἣδ' ἐφίληθεν  
 ἐκ Διός, ὅς τε θεοῖσι καὶ ἀνθρώποισιν ἀνάσσει,<sup>44</sup>  
 670 καὶ σφιν θεσπέσιον πλοῦτον κατέχευε Κρονίων.  
 Νιρεὺς αὖ Σύμηθεν ἄγε τρεῖς νῆας εἰσας,  
 Νιρεὺς Ἀγλαΐης υἱὸς Χαρόποιό τ' ἀνακτος,  
 Νιρεύς, ὃς κάλλιστος ἀνὴρ ὑπὸ Ἴλιον ἦλθε<sup>45</sup>  
 τῶν ἄλλων Δαναῶν μετ' ἀμύμονα Πηλεΐωνα.  
 675 ἀλλ' ἀλαπαδνὸς ἔην, παῦρος δέ οἱ εἶπετο λαός.  
 Οἱ δ' ἄρα Νίσυρόν τ' εἶχον Κράπαθόν τε Κάσον τε  
 καὶ Κῶν Εὐρυπύλοιο πόλιν νήσους τε Καλύδνας,  
 τῶν αὖ Φεΐδιππός τε καὶ Ἀντιφος ἡγήσασθην,  
 Θεσσαλοῦ νῆε δύνω Ἡρακλεΐδαο ἀνακτος.  
 680 τοῖς δὲ τριήκοντα γλαφυραὶ νέες ἐστιχόωντο.  
 Νῦν αὖ τοὺς ὅσσοι τὸ Πελασγικὸν Ἄργος ἔναιον,<sup>46</sup>  
 οἳ τ' Ἄλον οἳ τ' Ἀλόπην οἳ τε Τρηχῖν' ἐνέμοντο,  
 οἳ τ' εἶχον Φθίην ἣδ' Ἑλλάδα καλλιγύναικα,

<sup>43</sup> αὐτὰρ: αἶψα Zenodotus.

## BOOK 2

born to mighty Heracles by Astyocheia, whom he had led out of Ephyre from the river Selleïs, when he had sacked many cities of warriors nurtured by Zeus. But when Tlepolemus had grown to manhood in the well-built hall, at once he slew his own father's dear uncle, Licymnius, offshoot of Ares, who was already growing old. So he quickly built ships and, when he had gathered together many men, went in flight over the sea, since the other sons and grandsons of mighty Heracles threatened him. But he came to Rhodes in his wanderings, suffering woes, and there his people settled in three divisions by tribes, and were loved by Zeus who is king among gods and men; and on them was wondrous wealth poured by the son of Cronos.

In turn Nireus led three shapely ships from Syme, Nireus who was son of Aglaïa and lord Charopus, Nireus the handsomest man who came under Ilios of all the other Danaans after the incomparable son of Peleus. But he was a weakling, and only a few men followed with him.

And they who held Nisyrus and Crapathus and Casus and Cos, the city of Eurypylus, and the Calydnian islands, these in turn were led by Pheidippus and Antiphus, the two sons of king Thessalus, son of Heracles. And with them were ranged thirty hollow ships.

Now all those in turn who lived in Pelasgian Argos, and dwelt in Alos and Alope and Trachis, and who held Phthia and Hellas, the land of fair women, and were called

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<sup>44</sup> Line 669 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>45</sup> Lines 673–675 were rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>46</sup> Line 681 was altered by Zenodotus, who gave,  
οἱ δ' Ἄργος τ' εἶχον τὸ Πελασγικόν, οὐθαρ ἀρούρης,

- Μυρμιδόνες δὲ καλεῦντο καὶ Ἕλληνες καὶ Ἀχαιοί,  
 685 τῶν αὖ πεντήκοντα νεῶν ἦν ἀρχὸς Ἀχιλλεύς.  
 ἀλλ' οἳ γ' οὐ πολέμοιο δυσηχέος ἐμνώοντο·<sup>47</sup>  
 οὐ γὰρ ἔην ὅς τις σφιν ἐπὶ στίχας ἠγήσαιο.  
 κείμετο γὰρ ἐν νήεσσι ποδάρκης δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς,  
 κούρης χωόμενος Βρισηίδος ἠυκόμοιο,  
 690 τὴν ἐκ Λυρνησσοῦ ἐξείλετο πολλὰ μογήσας,  
 Λυρνησσὸν διαπορθήσας καὶ τείχεα Θήβης,  
 καδ δὲ Μύνητ' ἔβαλεν καὶ Ἐπίστροφον ἐγχεσι-  
 μώρους,  
 υἱέας Εὐηνοῖο Σεληπιάδαο ἄνακτος.  
 τῆς ὅ γε κείτ' ἀχέων, τάχα δ' ἀνστήσεσθαι ἔμελλεν.  
 695 Οἳ δ' εἶχον Φυλάκην καὶ Πύρασον ἀνθεμόεντα,  
 Δήμητρος τέμενος, Ἴτωνά τε μητέρα μήλων,  
 ἀγχιάλόν τ' Ἀντρώνα ἰδὲ Πτελεὸν λεχεποῖην,  
 τῶν αὖ Πρωτεσίλαος ἀρήιος ἠγεμόνευε  
 ζωὸς ἐών· τότε δ' ἤδη ἔχεν κάτα γαῖα μέλαινα.  
 700 τοῦ δὲ καὶ ἀμφιδρυφῆς ἄλοχος Φυλάκη ἐλέλειπτο  
 καὶ δόμος ἡμιτελής· τὸν δ' ἔκτανε Δάρδανος ἀνὴρ  
 νηὸς ἀποθρώσκοντα πολὺ πρῶτιστον Ἀχαιῶν.  
 οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδ' οἳ ἄναρχοι ἔσαν, πόθεόν γε μὲν ἀρχόν·  
 ἀλλὰ σφεας κόσμησε Ποδάρκης, ὅζος Ἄρηος,  
 705 Ἰφίκλου υἱὸς πολυμήλου Φυλακίδαο,  
 αὐτοκασίγνητος μεγαθύμου Πρωτεσιλάου  
 ὀπλότερος γενεῇ· ὁ δ' ἅμα πρότερος καὶ ἀρείων  
 ἦρως Πρωτεσίλαος ἀρήιος· οὐδέ τι λαοὶ  
 δεύονθ' ἠγεμόνος, πόθεόν γε μὲν ἐσθλὸν ἔοντα.  
 710 τῷ δ' ἅμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαιναι νῆες ἔποντο.



## BOOK 2

Myrmidons and Hellenes and Achaeans—of the fifty ships of these men the leader was Achilles. But they took no thought of dolorous war, since there was no man to lead them into the ranks. For he was lying idle among the ships, the swift-footed, noble Achilles, angered because of the fair-haired girl Briseïs, whom he had taken from Lyrnessus after much toil, when he destroyed Lyrnessus and the walls of Thebe, and struck down Mynes and Epistrophus, warriors who raged with the spear, sons of king Evenus, Selepus' son. Grieving for her Achilles lay idle; but he was soon to rise up.

And they who held Phylace and flowery Pyrasus, the precinct of Demeter, and Iton, mother of flocks, and Antron, close by the sea, and grassy Pteleos, of these in turn warlike Protesilaus was leader, while he was still alive; but by that time the black earth already held him fast. His wife, her cheeks torn in wailing, was left in Phylace and his house but half completed, and him a Dardanian warrior killed as he leapt from his ship by far the first of the Achaeans. But his men were not leaderless, though they longed for their leader; but Podarces, offshoot of Ares, marshaled them, he who was son of Phylacus' son, Iphiclus, rich in flocks, full brother to great-hearted Protesilaus, and younger born; but the other was at the same time the elder and the better man, the warrior, warlike Protesilaus. So the army in no way lacked a leader, though they longed for the noble man they had lost. And with him there followed forty black ships.

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<sup>47</sup> Lines 686–694 were rejected by Zenodotus.

- Οἱ δὲ Φερὰς ἐνέμοντο παραὶ Βοιβηίδα λίμνην,  
 Βοίβην καὶ Γλαφύρας καὶ ἐνκτιμένην Ἰαωλκόν,  
 τῶν ἦρχ' Ἀδμήτοιο φίλος πάις ἔνδεκα νηῶν  
 Εὐμηλος, τὸν ὑπ' Ἀδμήτῳ τέκε δῖα γυναικῶν  
 715 Ἄλκηστις, Πελῖας θυγατρῶν εἶδος ἀρίστη.
- Οἱ δ' ἄρα Μηθώνην καὶ Θαυμακίην ἐνέμοντο  
 καὶ Μελίβοιαν ἔχον καὶ Ὀλιζῶνα τρηχεῖαν,  
 τῶν δὲ Φιλοκτήτης ἦρχεν τόξων ἐν εἰδῶς<sup>48</sup>  
 ἐπτα νέων· ἐρέται δ' ἐν ἐκάστη πεντήκοντα  
 720 ἐμβέβασαν, τόξων ἐν εἰδότες ἱφί μάχεσθαι.  
 ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐν νήσῳ κεῖτο κρατέρ' ἄλγεα πάσχων,  
 Δήμνῳ ἐν ἡγαθέῃ, ὅθι μιν λίπον νῆες Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἔλκεϊ μοχθίζοντα κακῶ ὀλοόφρονος ὕδρου.  
 ἔνθ' ὃ γε κεῖτ' ἀχέων· τάχα δὲ μνήσεσθαι ἔμελλον<sup>49</sup>  
 725 Ἀργεῖοι παρὰ νηυσὶ Φιλοκτῆταο ἄνακτος.  
 οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδ' οἱ ἄναρχοι ἔσαν, πόθεόν γε μὲν ἀρχόν·  
 ἀλλὰ Μέδων κόσμησεν Ὀιλήος νόθος υἱός,  
 τόν ῥ' ἔτεκεν Ῥήνῃ ὑπ' Ὀιλήῃ πτολιπόρθῳ.
- Οἱ δ' εἶχον Τρίκκην καὶ Ἰθώμην κλωμακόεσσαν,  
 730 οἳ τ' ἔχον Οἰχαλίην, πόλιν Εὐρύτου Οἰχαλιῆος,  
 τῶν αὖθ' ἡγείσθην Ἀσκληπιοῦ δύο παῖδε,  
 ἰητῆρ' ἀγαθῷ, Ποδαλείριος ἡδὲ Μαχάων.  
 τοῖς δὲ τριήκοντα γλαφυραὶ νέες ἐστιχόωντο.
- Οἱ δ' ἔχον Ὀρμένιον, οἳ τε κρήνην Ὑπέρειαν,  
 735 οἳ τ' ἔχον Ἀστέριον Τιτάνοιό τε λευκὰ κάρηνα,  
 τῶν ἦρχ' Εὐρύπυλος Εὐαίμονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός.  
 τῷ δ' ἅμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαινα νῆες ἔποντο.

## BOOK 2

And they who dwelt in Pherae beside lake Boebeïs, and in Boebe, and Glaphyrae, and well-built Iolcus, these were led by the dear son of Admetus, Eumelus, with eleven ships, whom Alcestis, fair among women, bore to Admetus, she, the fairest of the daughters of Pelias.

And they who dwelt in Methone and Thaumacia, and who held Meliboea and rugged Olizon, these with their seven ships were led by Philoctetes, well skilled with the bow, and on each ship embarked fifty oarsmen well skilled to do battle with the bow. But Philoctetes lay suffering mighty pains on an island, on sacred Lemnos, where the sons of the Achaeans had left him in anguish with an evil wound from a deadly water snake. There he lay in grief; but soon the Argives beside their ships would remember king Philoctetes. But his men were not leaderless, though they longed for their leader; but Medon marshaled them, the bastard son of Oileus, whom Rhene bore to Oileus, sacker of cities.

And they who held Tricca and Ithome of the crags, and Oechalia, city of Oechalian Eurytus, these in turn were led by the two sons of Asclepius, the skilled healers Podaleirius and Machaon. And with them were ranged thirty hollow ships.

And they who held Ormenius and the fountain Hypereia, and who held Asterium and the white crests of Titanus, these were led by Eurypylus, the glorious son of Euaemon. And with him there followed forty black ships.

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<sup>48</sup> Line 718 was given by Zenodotus in the form,  
 τῶν αὖ ἡγεμόνευε Φιλοκτήτης ἀγὸς ἀνδρῶν

<sup>49</sup> Lines 724 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.

Οἱ δ' Ἄργισσαν ἔχον καὶ Γυρτώνην ἐνέμοντο,  
 Ὀρθὴν Ἠλώνην τε πόλιν τ' Ὀλοοσσόνα λευκὴν,  
 740 τῶν αὖθ' ἡγεμόνευε μενεπτόλεμος Πολυποίτης,  
 υἱὸς Πειριθόοιο, τὸν ἀθάνατος τέκετο Ζεὺς·  
 τὸν ῥ' ὑπὸ Πειριθόῳ τέκετο κλυτὸς Ἴπποδάμεια  
 ἥματι τῷ ὅτε φῆρας ἐτίσατο λαχνήεντας,  
 τοὺς δ' ἐκ Πηλίου ὤσε καὶ Αἰθίκεσσι πέλασσειν·  
 745 οὐκ οἶος, ἅμα τῷ γε Λεοντεύς, ὅζος Ἄρῃος,  
 υἱὸς ὑπερθύμοιο Κορώνου Καινείδαο.  
 τοῖς δ' ἅμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαιναι νῆες ἔποντο.

Γουνεὺς δ' ἐκ Κύφου ἦγε δύνω καὶ εἵκοσι νῆας,  
 τῷ δ' Ἐνιῆνες ἔποντο μενεπτόλεμοί τε Περαιβοί,  
 750 οἱ περὶ Δωδώνην δυσχείμερον οἰκί' ἔθεντο,  
 οἱ τ' ἀμφ' ἱμερτὸν Τιταρησσὸν ἔργ' ἐνέμοντο,  
 ὃς ῥ' ἐς Πηνειὸν προΐει καλλίρροον ὕδωρ,  
 οὐδ' ὃ γε Πηνειῷ συμμίσγεται ἀργυροδίνῃ,  
 ἀλλὰ τέ μιν καθύπερθεν ἐπιρρέει ἡνύτ' ἔλαιον·  
 755 ὄρκου γὰρ δεινοῦ Στυγὸς ὕδατός ἐστιν ἀπορρώξ.

Μαγνήτων δ' ἦρχε Πρόθοος Τενθρηδόνοιο υἱός,  
 οἱ περὶ Πηνειὸν καὶ Πήλιον εἰνοσίφυλλον  
 ναίεσκον. τῶν μὲν Πρόθοος θοὸς ἡγεμόνευε,  
 τῷ δ' ἅμα τεσσαράκοντα μέλαιναι νῆες ἔποντο.

760 Οὗτοι ἄρ' ἡγεμόνες Δαναῶν καὶ κοίρανοι ἦσαν.  
 τίς τ' ἄρ' τῶν ὅχ' ἄριστος ἔην, σύ μοι ἔννεπε, Μοῦσα,  
 αὐτῶν ἡδ' ἵππων, οἱ ἅμ' Ἀτρεΐδῃσιν ἔποντο.

Ἴπποι μὲν μέγ' ἄρισται ἔσαν Φηρητιάδαο,  
 τὰς Εὐμήλος ἔλαυνε ποδώκεας ὄρνιθας ὥς,  
 765 ὄτριχας οἰέτεας, σταφύλῃ ἐπὶ νῶτον εἰσας·

## BOOK 2

And they who held Argissa, and dwelt in Gyrtone, Orthe, and Elone, and the white city of Oloösson, of these in turn Polypoetes, firm in the fight, was leader, son of Peirithous, whom immortal Zeus begot—him whom glorious Hippodameia conceived to Peirithous on the day when he exacted vengeance from the shaggy centaurs, and thrust them out from Pelium, and drove them to the Aethices. He was not alone, but with him was Leonteus, offshoot of Ares, the son of Caeneus' son, great-hearted Coronus. And with them there followed forty black ships.

And Gouneus led from Cyphus two and twenty ships, and with him followed the Enienes and the Peraebi, firm in the fight, who had set their dwellings about wintry Dodona, and dwelt in the ploughland about lovely Titaressus, who pours his fair-flowing streams into Peneius; and he does not mingle with the silver eddies of Peneius, but flows on over his waters like olive oil; for he is a branch of the water of Styx, the dread river of oath.

And the Magnetes had as leader Prothous, son of Tenthredon. These were they who lived about Peneius and Pelion, covered with waving forests. Of these was swift Prothous leader; and with him there followed forty black ships.

These were the leaders of the Danaans and their lords. But who was far the best among them do you tell me, Muse—best of the warriors and of the horses that followed with the sons of Atreus.

Of horses best by far were the mares of the son of Pheres, those that Eumelus drove, swift as birds, like of coat, like of age, their backs as even as a levelling line could

- τὰς ἐν Πηρείῃ<sup>50</sup> θρέψ' ἀργυρότοξος Ἀπόλλων,  
 ἄμφω θηλείας, φόβον Ἄρης φορεούσας.  
 ἀνδρῶν αὖ μέγ' ἄριστος ἔην Τελαμώνιος Αἴας,  
 ὄφρ' Ἀχιλεὺς μήνιεν· ὁ γὰρ πολὺν φέρτατος ἦεν,  
 770 ἵπποι θ', οἳ φορέεσκον ἀμύμονα Πηλεΐωνα.  
 ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐν νήεσσι κορωνίσιν ποντοπόροισι  
 κείτ' ἀπομηνίσας Ἀγαμέμνονι ποιμένι λαῶν  
 Ἀτρεΐδῃ· λαοὶ δὲ παρὰ ῥηγμῖνι θαλάσσης  
 δίσκοισιν τέρποντο καὶ αἰγανέησιν ἰέντες  
 775 τόξοισιν θ'. ἵπποι δὲ παρ' ἄρμασιν οἷσιν ἕκαστος  
 λωτὸν ἐρεπτόμενοι ἐλεόθρεπτόν τε σέλινον  
 ἕστασαν· ἄρματα δ' εὖ πεπυκασμένα κείμενα ἀνάκτων  
 ἐν κλισίῃς. οἳ δ' ἀρχὸν ἀρηιφίλον ποθέοντες  
 φοίτων ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα κατὰ στρατὸν οὐδὲ μάχοντο.  
 780 Οἳ δ' ἄρ' ἴσαν ὥς εἴ τε πυρὶ χθὼν πᾶσα νέμοιτο·  
 γαῖα δ' ὑπεστενάχιζε Διὶ ὥς τερπικεραύνῳ  
 χωομένῳ, ὅτε τ' ἀμφὶ Τυφωεί γαῖαν ἱμάσση  
 εἶν Ἀρίμοις, ὅθι φασὶ Τυφωέος ἔμμεναι εὐνάς·  
 ὥς ἄρα τῶν ὑπὸ ποσσὶ μέγα στεναχίζετο γαῖα  
 785 ἐρχομένων· μάλα δ' ὦκα διέπρησσον πεδίοιο.  
 Τρῳσὶν δ' ἄγγελος ἦλθε ποδὴννεμος ὠκέα Ἴρις  
 παρ Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο σὺν ἀγγελίῃ ἀλεγεινῇ·  
 οἳ δ' ἀγορὰς ἀγόρευον ἐπὶ Πριάμοιο θύρῃσι  
 πάντες ὁμηγερέες, ἡμὲν νέοι ἡδὲ γέροντες.  
 790 ἀγχοῦ δ' ἱσταμένη προσέφη πόδας ὠκέα Ἴρις·  
 εἶσατο δὲ φθογγὴν νῦν Πριάμοιο Πολίτῃ,<sup>51</sup>  
 ὃς Τρώων σκοπὸς ἵζε, ποδωκείῃσι πεποιθώς,

make. These had Apollo of the silver bow reared in Pereia, both of them mares, bringing with them the panic of war. And of warriors far best was Telamonian Aias, while Achilles continued his wrath; for Achilles was far the mightiest, he and the horses that bore the incomparable son of Peleus. But he was lying among his beaked, seafaring ships in utter wrath against Agamemnon, Atreus' son, shepherd of men; and his men along the shore of the sea amused themselves in casting the discus and the javelin, and in archery; and their horses, each beside his own harness, eating lotus and parsley of the marsh, stood idle, while the chariots were placed, well covered up, in the huts of their masters. But the men, longing for their leader, dear to Ares, roamed here and there through the camp, and did not fight.

So they came on as though all the land were being swept with fire; and the earth groaned beneath them, as when Zeus who hurls the thunderbolt in his wrath lashes the land around Typhoeus in the country of the Arimi, where men say is the bed of Typhoeus. So the earth groaned greatly beneath their tread as they went; and very swiftly did they speed across the plain.

And to the Trojans went, as a messenger from Zeus who bears the aegis, wind-footed, swift Iris with a grievous message. They were holding assembly at Priam's gate, all gathered together, the young men and the elders. And swift-footed Iris came up and spoke to them; and she made her voice like that of Polites, son of Priam, who sat as a lookout of the Trojans, trusting in his fleetness of foot, on

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<sup>50</sup> Πηρείη: Πιερίη.

<sup>51</sup> Lines 791–795 were rejected by Aristarchus.

- τύμβῳ ἐπ' ἀκροτάτῳ Αἰσυνήταο γέροντος,  
 δέγμενος ὀππότε ναῦφιν ἀφορμηθεῖεν Ἀχαιοί.  
 795 τῷ μιν ἔεισαμένη προσέφη πόδας ὠκέα Ἴρις·  
 “ὦ γέρον, αἰεὶ τοι μῦθοι φίλοι ἄκριτοὶ εἰσιν,  
 ὥς ποτ' ἐπ' εἰρήνης· πόλεμος δ' ἀλίαςτος ὄρωρεν.  
 ἦ μὲν δὴ μάλα πολλὰ μάχας εἰσήλυθον ἀνδρῶν,  
 ἀλλ' οὐ πῶ τοιόνδε τοσόνδε τε λαὸν ὄπωπα·  
 800 λήην γὰρ φύλλοισιν ἐοικότες ἢ ψαμάθοισιν  
 ἔρχονται πεδίοιο μαχησόμενοι προτὶ ἄστν.  
 Ἔκτορ, σοὶ δὲ μάλιστ' ἐπιτέλλομαι, ὧδε δὲ ῥέξαι·  
 πολλοὶ γὰρ κατὰ ἄστν μέγα Πριάμου ἐπίκουροι,  
 ἄλλη δ' ἄλλων γλῶσσα πολυσπερέων ἀνθρώπων·  
 805 τοῖσιν ἕκαστος ἀνὴρ σημαινέτω οἷσί περ ἄρχει,  
 τῶν δ' ἐξηγείσθω κοσμησάμενος πολιήτας.”  
 Ὡς ἔφαθ', Ἔκτωρ δ' οὐ τι θεᾶς ἔπος ἠγνοίησεν,  
 αἶψα δὲ λῦσ' ἀγορήν· ἐπὶ τεύχεα δ' ἐσσεύοντο·  
 πᾶσαι δ' ὠίγνυντο πύλαι, ἐκ δ' ἔσσυτο λαός,  
 810 πεζοὶ θ' ἱππῆές τε· πολὺς δ' ὀρυμαγδὸς ὀρώρει.  
 Ἔστι δέ τις προπάροιθε πόλιος αἰπεία κολώνη,  
 ἐν πεδίῳ ἀπάνευθε, περίδρομος ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα,  
 τὴν ἦ τοι ἄνδρες Βατίειαν κικλήσκουσιν,  
 ἀθάνατοι δέ τε σῆμα πολυσκάρθοιο Μυρίνης.  
 815 ἔνθα τότε Τρῶές τε διέκριθεν ἥδ' ἐπίκουροι.  
 Τρῳσὶ μὲν ἠγεμόνευε μέγας κορυθαίολος Ἔκτωρ  
 Πριαμίδης· ἅμα τῷ γε πολὺ πλείστοι καὶ ἄριστοι  
 λαοὶ θωρήσσοντο μεμαότες ἐγχείησι.  
 Δαρδανίων αὖτ' ἦρχεν εὖς πάις Ἀγχίσαιο,  
 820 Αἰνείας, τὸν ὑπ' Ἀγχίσῃ τέκε δι' Ἀφροδίτῃ,



## BOOK 2

the topmost part of the grave mound of aged Aesyetes, watching for the time when the Achaeans should start out from their ships. Likening herself to him swift-footed Iris spoke to Priam, saying: "Old man, ever are endless words dear to you, just as once in time of peace; but war unceasing has arisen. I have very often before now entered into battles of warriors, but never yet have I seen an army like this in quality and size; for like leaves or sands do they come over the plain to fight against the city. Hector, to you beyond all others I give the charge to act as follows; for there are many allies throughout the great city of Priam, and tongue differs from tongue among men from many lands: let each one give the word to those he leads, and them let him lead out, when he has marshaled the men of his own city."

So she spoke, and Hector in no way failed to recognize the voice of the goddess, but immediately broke up the assembly; and they rushed to arms. All the gates were opened wide, and the army rushed out, both foot soldiers and charioteers; and a great din arose.

There is in front of the city a steep mound far out in the plain, with a clear space around it on all sides; this men call Batieia, but the immortals call it the grave mound of Myrine, light of step. There on that day the Trojans and their allies separated their companies.

The Trojans were led by great Hector of the flashing helmet, the son of Priam, and with him were marshaled by far the most and the best men, eager with the spear.

Of the Dardanians in turn the mighty son of Anchises was leader, Aeneas, whom fair Aphrodite conceived to

Ἴδης ἐν κνημοῖσι θεὰ βροτῶ εὐνηθείσα,  
οὐκ οἶος, ἅμα τῷ γε δύω Ἀντήνορος υἱέ,  
Ἀρχέλοχός τ' Ἀκάμας τε, μάχης ἐν εἰδότε πάσης.

Οἱ δὲ Ζέλειαν ἔναιον ὑπαὶ πόδα νείατον Ἴδης,  
825 ἀφνειοί, πίνοντες ὕδωρ μέλαν Αἰσήποιο,  
Τρῶες, τῶν αὐτ' ἦρχε Λυκάονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός,  
Πάνδαρος, ᾧ καὶ τόξον Ἀπόλλων αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν.

Οἱ δ' Ἀδρήστειάν τ' εἶχον καὶ δῆμον Ἀπαισοῦ,  
καὶ Πιτύειαν ἔχον καὶ Τηρείης ὄρος αἰπύ,  
830 τῶν ἦρχ' Ἀδρηστός τε καὶ Ἀμφιος λινωθώρηξ,  
υἱέ δύω Μέροπος Περκωσίου, ὃς περὶ πάντων  
ἦδεε μαντοσύνας, οὐδὲ οὓς παῖδας ἔασκε  
στείχειν ἐς πόλεμον φθισήνορα. τὼ δέ οἱ οὗ τι  
πειθέσθην· κῆρες γὰρ ἄγον μέλανος θανάτοιο.

835 Οἱ δ' ἄρα Περκώτην καὶ Πράκτιον ἀμφενέμοντο,  
καὶ Σηστὸν καὶ Ἀβυδὸν ἔχον καὶ δῖαν Ἀρίσβην,  
τῶν αὖθ' Ἑρτακίδης ἦρχ' Ἀσιος, ὄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν,  
Ἀσιος Ἑρτακίδης, ὃν Ἀρίσβηθεν φέρον ἵπποι  
αἰθωνες μεγάλοι, ποταμοῦ ἅπο Σελλήεντος.

840 Ἴππόθοος δ' ἄγε φύλα Πελασγῶν ἐγχεσιμῶρων,  
τῶν οἱ Λάρισαν ἐριβώλακα ναιετάασκον·  
τῶν ἦρχ' Ἴππόθοός τε Πύλαιός τ', ὄζος Ἄρρος,  
υἱέ δύω Λήθιοι Πελασγοῦ Τευταμίδαο.

845 Αὐτὰρ Θρήικας ἦγ' Ἀκάμας καὶ Πείροος ἥρως,  
ὄσσοις Ἑλλήσποντος ἀγάρροος ἐντὸς ἔεργει.

Εὖφημος δ' ἀρχὸς Κικόνων ἦν αἰχμητῶν  
υἱὸς Τροιζήνοιο διοτρεφέος Κεάδαο.

Αὐτὰρ Πυραίχμης ἄγε Παίονας ἀγκυλοτόξους,

## BOOK 2

Anchises among the spurs of Ida, a goddess bedded with a mortal man. He was not alone; with him were Antenor's two sons, Archelochus and Acamas, well skilled in all manner of fighting.

And they who lived in Zeleia under the lowest foot of Ida, men of wealth, who drink the dark water of Aesepus, the Troes, these in turn were led by the glorious son of Lycaon, Pandarus, to whom Apollo himself gave the bow.

And they who held Adrasteia and the land of Apaesus, and who held Pityeia and the steep mountain of Tereia, these were led by Adrastus and Amphius, with corslet of linen, sons of Merops of Percote, who excelled all men in prophesying, and would not allow his sons to go into battle, the destroyer of men. But they would not listen to him at all, for the fates of black death were leading them on.

And they who dwelt about Percote and Practius, and who held Sestus and Abydus and noble Arisbe, these in turn were led by Hyrtacus' son Asius, a leader of men—Asius, son of Hyrtacus, whom his horses tawny and tall had brought from Arisbe, from the river Selleïs.

And Hippothous led the tribes of the Pelasgi, who rage with the spear, them who lived in deep-soiled Larisa; these were led by Hippothous and Pylaeus, offshoot of Ares, the two sons of Pelasgian Lethus, son of Teutamus.

But the Thracians Acamas led and Peirous, the warrior, all those whom the strong stream of the Hellespont encloses.

And Euphemus was leader of the Ciconian spearmen, the son of Ceas' son Troezenus, nurtured by Zeus.

But Pyraechmes led the Paeonians, with curved bows,

τηλόθεν ἐξ Ἀμνδῶνος, ἀπ' Ἀξιοῦ εὐρὺ ρέοντος,  
 850 Ἀξιοῦ, οὗ κάλλιστον ὕδωρ ἐπικίδναται αἶαν.

Παφλαγόνων δ' ἠγείτο Πυλαιμένεος λάσιον κῆρ  
 ἐξ Ἐνετῶν, ὅθεν ἡμιόνων γένος ἀγροτεράων,  
 οἳ ῥα Κύτωρον ἔχον καὶ Σήσαμον ἀμφενέμοντο  
 ἀμφί τε Παρθένιον ποταμὸν κλυτὰ δώματα ναῖον  
 855 Κρῶμνάν τ' Αἰγιαλόν τε καὶ ὑψηλοὺς Ἐρυθίνους.

Αὐτὰρ Ἀλιζώνων Ὀδῖος καὶ Ἐπίστροφος ἦρχον  
 τηλόθεν ἐξ Ἀλύβης, ὅθεν ἀργύρου ἐστὶ γενέθλη.

Μυσῶν δὲ Χρόμις ἦρχε καὶ Ἔννομος οἰωνιστής.  
 ἀλλ' οὐκ οἰωνοῖσιν ἐρύσατο κῆρα μέλαιναν,  
 860 ἀλλ' ἐδάμη ὑπὸ χερσὶ ποδώκεος Αἰακίδαο  
 ἐν ποταμῷ, ὅθι περ Τρῶας κεραίζε καὶ ἄλλους.

Φόρκυς αὖ Φρύγας ἦγε καὶ Ἀσκάνιος θεοειδὴς  
 τῇλ' ἐξ Ἀσκανίης· μέμασαν δ' ὑσμῖνι μάχεσθαι.

Μήοσιν αὖ Μέσθλης τε καὶ Ἄντιφος ἠγησάσθην,  
 865 νῆε Ταλαιμένεος, τῷ Γυγαίῃ τέκε λίμνη,  
 οἳ καὶ Μήονας ἦγον ὑπὸ Τμῶλῳ γεγαῶτας.

Νάσσης αὖ Καρῶν ἠγήσατο βαρβαροφώνων,  
 οἳ Μίλητον ἔχον Φθιρῶν τ' ὄρος ἀκριτόφυλλον  
 Μαιάνδρου τε ροὰς Μυκάλης τ' αἰπεινὰ κάρηνα.  
 870 τῶν μὲν ἄρ' Ἀμφίμαχος καὶ Νάσσης ἠγησάσθην,  
 Νάσσης Ἀμφίμαχός τε, Νομίονος ἀγλαὰ τέκνα,  
 ὃς καὶ χρυσὸν ἔχων πόλεμόνδ' ἱεν ἡύτε κούρη,

from afar out of Amydon from wide-flowing *Axius*—*Axius* whose water flows the fairest over the face of the earth.

And the Paphlagonians *Pylaemenes* of the stout heart led from the land of the *Eneti*, from which is the race of wild she-mules. These held *Cyturus* and dwelt around *Sesamus*, and had their famed dwellings around the river *Parthenius* and *Cromna* and *Aegialus* and lofty *Erythini*.

But of the *Halizones* *Odius* and *Epistrophus* were leaders from far off, from *Alybe*, where is the birthplace of silver.

And of the *Mysians* the leaders were *Chromis* and *Ennomus* the augur; but with his auguries he did not ward off black fate, but was slain at the hands of *Aeacus'* grandson, swift of foot, in the river, where *Achilles* was cutting down the *Trojans* and others as well.

And *Phorcys* and godlike *Ascanius* led the *Phrygians* from afar, from *Ascania*, and were eager to fight in the press of battle.

And the *Maeonians* were led by *Mesthles* and *Antiphus*, the two sons of *Talaemenes*, whose mother was the nymph of the *Gygæan* lake; and they led the *Maeonians*, whose birth was at the foot of *Tmolus*.

And *Nastes* again led the *Carians*, barbarous of speech, who held *Miletus* and the mountain of *Phthires*, dense with its leafage, and the streams of *Maeander*, and the steep crests of *Mycale*. These were led by two leaders, *Amphimachus* and *Nastes*—*Nastes* and *Amphimachus*, the glorious sons of *Nomion*. And he<sup>2</sup> came to the battle all decked with gold, like a girl, fool that he was; but his gold

<sup>2</sup> Presumably *Nastes*, as the principal leader, although the pronoun would more naturally refer to *Amphimachus*. M.

νήπιος, οὐδέ τί οἱ τό γ' ἐπήρκεσε λυγρόν ὄλεθρον,  
 ἀλλ' ἐδάμην ὑπὸ χερσὶ ποδώκεος Αἰακίδαο  
 875 ἐν ποταμῷ, χρυσὸν δ' Ἀχιλεὺς ἐκόμισσε δαΐφρων.  
 Σαρπηδὼν δ' ἦρχεν Λυκίων καὶ Γλαῦκος ἀμύμων  
 τηλόθεν ἐκ Λυκίης, Ξάνθου ἄπο δινήμεντος.

## BOOK 2

could not protect him from woeful destruction, but he was killed in the river at the hands of Aeacus' grandson, swift of foot; and Achilles, wise of heart, carried off the gold.

And Sarpedon and incomparable Glaucus were leaders of the Lycians from afar out of Lycia, from the eddying Xanthus.

## Γ

- Αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κόσμηθεν ἅμ' ἡγεμόνεσσιν ἕκαστοι,  
 Τρῶες μὲν κλαγγῇ τ' ἐνοπῇ τ' ἴσαν, ὄρνιθες ὥς,  
 ἥύτε περ κλαγγῇ γεράνων πέλει οὐρανόθι πρό,  
 αἶ τ' ἐπεὶ οὖν χειμῶνα φύγον καὶ ἀθέσφατον ὄμβρον,  
 5 κλαγγῇ ταί γε πέτονται ἐπ' Ὀκεανοῖο ῥοάων,  
 ἀνδράσι Πυγμαίοισι φόνον καὶ κῆρα φέρουσαι·  
 ἡέριαι δ' ἄρα ταί γε κακὴν ἔριδα προφέρονται.  
 οἱ δ' ἄρ' ἴσαν σιγῇ μένεα πνεύοντες Ἀχαιοί,  
 ἐν θυμῷ μεμαῶτες ἀλεξέμεν ἀλλήλοισιν.
- 10 Εὖτ' ὄρεος κορυφῇσι Νότος κατέχευεν ὀμίχλην,  
 ποιμέσιν οὔ τι φίλην, κλέπτῃ δέ τε νυκτὸς ἀμείνω,  
 τόσσον τίς τ' ἐπιλεύσσει ὅσον τ' ἐπὶ λᾶαν ἴησιν·  
 ὥς ἄρα τῶν ὑπὸ ποσσὶ κονίσαλος ὄρνυτ' ἀελλῆς  
 ἐρχομένων· μάλα δ' ὦκα διέπρησσον πεδίοιο.
- 15 Οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ σχεδὸν ἦσαν ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισιν ἰόντες,  
 Τρῳσὶν μὲν προμάχιζεν Ἀλέξανδρος θεοειδής,  
 παρδαλέην ὠμοισιν ἔχων καὶ καμπύλα τόξα  
 καὶ ξίφος· αὐτὰρ ὁ δοῦρε δύω κεκορυθμένα χαλκῷ<sup>1</sup>  
 πάλλων Ἀργείων προκαλίζετο πάντας ἀρίστους<sup>2</sup>  
 20 ἀντίβιον μαχέσασθαι ἐν αἰνῇ δημοτῇτι.



## BOOK 3

Now when they were marshaled, the several companies with their leaders, the Trojans came on with clamor and a cry, like birds, like the clamor of cranes that arises before the face of heaven when they flee from wintry storms and boundless rain, and with clamor fly toward the streams of Ocean, bringing slaughter and death to Pygmy men, and in the early dawn they offer evil strife. But the Achaeans came on in silence, breathing fury, eager at heart to come and assist each other.

Just as when the South Wind pours a mist over the peaks of a mountain, a mist that the shepherd loves not, but that to the robber is better than night, and a man can see only so far as he can throw a stone, just so a dense dust cloud rose up from beneath their feet as they went; and very swiftly did they speed across the plain.

Now when they had come near, as they advanced against each other, among the Trojans acted as champion godlike Alexander, having on his shoulders a panther skin and a curved bow, and a sword; and brandishing two spears tipped with bronze he challenged all the best of the Argives to fight with him face to face in dread combat.

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<sup>1</sup> Lines 18–20 were rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>2</sup> Lines 19 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

Τὸν δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησεν ἀρηίφιλος Μενέλαος  
 ἐρχόμενον προπάραιθεν ὁμίλον μακρὰ βιβάντα,  
 ὥς τε λέων ἐχάρη μεγάλῳ ἐπὶ σώματι κύρσας,  
 εὐρὼν ἢ ἔλαφον κεραὸν ἢ ἄγριον αἶγα

25 πεινάων· μάλα γάρ τε κατεσθίει, εἴ περ ἂν αὐτὸν  
 σεύωνται ταχέες τε κύνες θαλεροί τ' αἰζηοί·  
 ὥς ἐχάρη Μενέλαος Ἀλέξανδρον θεοειδέα  
 ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ἰδὼν· φάτο γὰρ τίσασθαι<sup>3</sup> ἀλείτην.  
 αὐτίκα δ' ἐξ ὀχέων σὺν τεύχεσιν ἄλτο χαμαῖζε.

30 Τὸν δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησεν Ἀλέξανδρος θεοειδῆς  
 ἐν προμάχοισι φανέντα, κατεπλήγη φίλον ἦτορ,  
 ἅψ δ' ἐτάρων εἰς ἔθνος ἐχάζετο κῆρ' ἀλεείνων.  
 ὥς δ' ὅτε τίς τε δράκοντα ἰδὼν παλίνορσος ἀπέστη  
 οὔρεος ἐν βήσσης, ὑπὸ τε τρόμος ἔλλαβε γυῖα,  
 35 ἅψ δ' ἀνεχώρησεν, ὦχρός τέ μιν εἶλε παρειάς,  
 ὥς αὐτίς καθ' ὁμίλον ἔδν Τρώων ἀγερώχων  
 δείσας Ἀτρέος υἱὸν Ἀλέξανδρος θεοειδῆς.

Τὸν δ' Ἔκτωρ νείκεσσεν ἰδὼν αἰσχροῖς ἐπέεσσιν·  
 “Δύσπαρι, εἶδος ἄριστε, γυναιμανές, ἡπεροπευτά,  
 40 αἴθ' ὄφελος ἄγονός τ' ἔμεναι ἄγαμός τ' ἀπολέσθαι.  
 καί κε τὸ βουλοίμην, καί κεν πολὺ κέρδιον ἦεν  
 ἢ οὔτω λώβην τ' ἔμεναι καὶ ὑπόψιον ἄλλων.  
 ἢ πον καρχαλόωσι κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοί,  
 φάντες ἀριστῆα πρόμον ἔμμεναι, οὔνεκα καλὸν  
 45 εἶδος ἔπ', ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔστι βίη φρεσὶν οὔδέ τις ἀλκή.  
 ἢ τοιόσδε ἐὼν ἐν ποντοπόροισι νέεσσι  
 πόντον ἐπιπλώσας, ἐτάρους ἐρίηρας ἀγείρας,

But when Menelaus, dear to Ares, caught sight of him as he came out in front of the throng with long strides, then just as a lion is glad when he comes upon a great carcase, having found a horned stag or a wild goat when he is hungry; for greedily he devours it, even though swift dogs and vigorous youths set on him: so was Menelaus glad when his eyes beheld godlike Alexander; for he thought that he had got his revenge on the one who had wronged him. And immediately he leapt in his armor from his chariot to the ground.

But when godlike Alexander caught sight of him as he appeared among the champions, he was panic-stricken at heart, and he drew back into the throng of his comrades, avoiding fate. And just as a man at the sight of a snake in the glades of a mountain starts back, and trembling seizes his limbs beneath him, and he draws back again and pallor lays hold of his cheeks, so did godlike Alexander, seized with fear of Atreus' son, shrink back into the throng of the lordly Trojans.

But Hector saw him, and rebuked him with reproachful words: "Evil Paris, most fair to look on, you who are mad after women, you deceiver, I wish that you had never been born and had died unwed. I both wish this, and it would have been far better than that you should be an outrage like this and an object of scorn to other men. I think the long-haired Achaeans will laugh aloud, saying that a chief man is our champion because he has a fair appearance, but there is no strength in him nor any valor. Was it in such strength as this that you sailed over the deep in your seafaring ships, having gathered your trusty comrades and,

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<sup>3</sup> *τίσασθαι: τίσεσθαι* (cf. *Odyssey* 20.121).

- μιχθεὶς ἄλλοδαποῖσι γυναῖκ' εὐειδέ' ἀνῆγες  
 ἐξ ἀπίης γαίης, νυὸν ἀνδρῶν αἰχμητῶν,  
 50 πατρί τε σῶ μέγα πῆμα πόληί τε παντί τε δήμῳ,  
 δυσμενέσιν μὲν χάρμα, κατηφέην δὲ σοὶ αὐτῶ;  
 οὐκ ἂν δὴ μείνειας ἀρηίφιλον Μενέλαον;  
 γνοίης χ' οἷον φῶτος ἔχεις θαλερὴν παράκοιτιν·  
 οὐκ ἂν τοι χραίσμη κίθαρις τά τε δῶρ' Ἀφροδίτης,  
 55 ἥ τε κόμη τό τε εἶδος, ὅτ' ἐν κονίησι μιγείης.  
 ἀλλὰ μάλα Τρῶες δειδήμονες.<sup>4</sup> ἥ τέ κεν ἤδη  
 λαῖνον ἔσσο χιτῶνα κακῶν ἔνεχ' ὅσσα ἔοργας."  
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπεν Ἀλέξανδρος θεοειδής·  
 "Ἐκτορ, ἐπεὶ με κατ' αἶσαν ἐνείκεσας οὐδ' ὑπὲρ  
 αἶσαν,—  
 60 αἰεὶ τοι κραδίη πέλεκυς ὥς ἐστίν ἀτειρής,  
 ὅς τ' εἶσιν διὰ δουρὸς ὑπ' ἀνέρος, ὅς ρά τε τέχνη  
 νήιον ἐκτάμνησιν, ὀφέλλει δ' ἀνδρὸς ἐρωήν·  
 ὥς σοὶ ἐνὶ στήθεσιν ἀτάρβητος νόος ἐστί—  
 μή μοι δῶρ' ἐρατὰ πρόφερε χρυσέης Ἀφροδίτης·  
 65 οὐ τοι ἀπόβλητ' ἐστὶ θεῶν ἐρικυδέα δῶρα,  
 ὅσσα κεν αὐτοὶ δῶσιν, ἑκὼν δ' οὐκ ἂν τις ἔλοιτο.  
 νῦν αὖτ' εἴ μ' ἐθέλεις πολεμίζειν ἡδὲ μάχεσθαι,  
 ἄλλους μὲν κάθισον Τρῶας καὶ πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 αὐτὰρ ἔμ' ἐν μέσσω καὶ ἀρηίφιλον Μενέλαον  
 70 συμβάλετ' ἀμφ' Ἑλένη καὶ κτήμασι πᾶσι μάχεσθαι.  
 ὁππότερος δέ κε νικήσῃ κρείσσων τε γένηται,  
 κτήμαθ' ἐλὼν ἐν πάντα γυναῖκά τε οἴκαδ' ἀγέσθω·

<sup>4</sup> δειδήμονες: δειλήμονες, ἐλεήμονες Zenodotus.

mingling with foreigners, brought back a fair woman from a distant land, a daughter of warriors who wield the spear, but to your father and city and all the people a great misery—to your foes a joy, but to yourself a cause of shame? Will you then not face Menelaus, dear to Ares? Then you would learn what kind of man he is whose lovely wife you have. The lyre will not help you, nor the gifts of Aphrodite, your locks and your appearance, when you lie low in the dust. But the Trojans are utter cowards: otherwise by now you would have put on a coat of stone<sup>1</sup> because of all the evil things you have done.”

And to him did godlike Alexander make answer, saying: “Hector, since you rebuke me rightly, and not beyond what is right—always is your heart unyielding, like an axe that is driven through a beam by the hand of a man who skilfully shapes a ship’s timber, and it makes the force of his blow increase; just so is the heart in your breast resolute—cast not in my teeth the lovely gifts of golden Aphrodite. Not to be flung aside are the glorious gifts of the gods, whatever they themselves give, but of his own will would no man choose them. But now, if you want me to war and do battle, make the other Trojans sit down and all the Achaeans, but set me between the armies together with Menelaus, dear to Ares, to do battle for Helen and all her possessions. And whoever wins, and proves himself the better man, let him duly take all the wealth and the woman, and take them home.

<sup>1</sup> The phrase “put on a coat of stone” is to be understood as a euphemism for death by stoning; cf. *χθονὸς χλαῖνα*, Aesch. Ag. 872. M.

- οἱ δ' ἄλλοι φιλότητα καὶ ὄρκια πιστὰ ταμόντες  
ναίοιτε Τροίην ἐριβόλακα, τοὶ δὲ νεέσθων
- 75 Ἄργος ἐς ἱππόβοτον καὶ Ἀχαιίδα καλλιγύναικα.”  
ὥς ἔφαθ', Ἐκτωρ δ' αὖτε χάρη μέγα μῦθον  
ἀκούσας,  
καὶ ῥ' ἐς μέσσον ἰὼν Τρώων ἀνέεργε φάλαγγας,  
μέσσου δουρὸς ἐλών· τοὶ δ' ἰδρύνθησαν ἅπαντες.<sup>5</sup>  
τῷ δ' ἐπετοξάζοντο κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ
- 80 ἰοῖσίν τε τιτυσκόμενοι λάεσσί τ' ἔβαλλον.  
αὐτὰρ ὁ μακρὸν ἄυσεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
“ἴσχεσθ', Ἀργεῖοι, μὴ βάλλετε, κοῦροι Ἀχαιῶν·  
στεῦνται γάρ τι ἔπος ἐρέειν κορυθαίολος Ἐκτωρ.”
- ὥς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἔσχοντο μάχης ἄνεώ τ' ἐγένοντο
- 85 ἐσσυμένως· Ἐκτωρ δὲ μετ' ἀμφοτέροισιν ἔειπε·  
“κέκλυτέ μεν, Τρῶες καὶ ἐνκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοί,<sup>6</sup>  
μῦθον Ἀλεξάνδροιο, τοῦ εἵνεκα νείκος ὄρωρεν.  
ἄλλους μὲν κέλεται Τρῶας καὶ πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς  
τεύχεα κάλ' ἀποθέσθαι ἐπὶ χθονὶ πουλυβοτείρῃ,
- 90 αὐτὸν δ' ἐν μέσσω καὶ ἀρηίφιλον Μενέλαον  
οἷους ἀμφ' Ἑλένη καὶ κτήμασι πᾶσι μάχεσθαι.  
ὁππότερος δέ κε νικήσῃ κρείσσων τε γένηται,  
κτῆμαθ' ἐλὼν εὖ πάντα γυναικὰ τε οἴκαδ' ἀγέσθω·  
οἱ δ' ἄλλοι φιλότητα καὶ ὄρκια πιστὰ τάμωμεν.”
- 95 ὥς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ·  
τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος·  
“κέκλυτε νῦν καὶ ἐμεῖο· μάλιστα γὰρ ἄλγος ἰκάνει  
θυμὸν ἐμόν, φρονέω δὲ διακρινθήμεναι ἤδη

But you others, swearing friendship and solemn oaths, may you all live in deep-soiled Troyland, and let the others return to Argos, pastureland of horses, and Achaea, land of fair women."

So he spoke, and Hector rejoiced greatly when he heard his words; and he went into the midst of the Trojans and kept back their battalions with his spear grasped by the middle; and they all sat down. But the long-haired Achaeans began to aim at him and strike him with arrows and pelt him with stones. But aloud shouted Agamemnon, lord of men: "Hold, Argives, shoot no more, youths of the Achaeans; for Hector of the flashing helmet is making ready to say something."

So he spoke, and they held back from fighting, and became silent immediately. And Hector spoke between the two armies: "Hear from me, you Trojans and well-greaved Achaeans, the words of Alexander, for whose sake strife has arisen. The other Trojans and all the Achaeans he asks that they lay aside their fair armor on the bounteous earth, and that he himself between the armies together with Menelaus, dear to Ares, do battle in single combat for Helen and all her possessions. And whoever wins, and proves himself the better man, let him duly take all the wealth and the woman, and take them home; but we others, let us swear friendship and solemn oaths."

So he spoke, and they all became hushed in silence; and among them spoke Menelaus, good at the war cry: "Hear me now also, for upon my heart above all others has sorrow

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<sup>5</sup> Line 78 is omitted in some MSS.

<sup>6</sup> After line 86 many MSS. add,

ὄφρ' εἴπω τά με θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι κελεύει.

- Ἀργείους καὶ Τρῶας, ἐπεὶ κακὰ πολλὰ πέπασθε  
 100 εἵνεκ' ἐμῆς ἔριδος καὶ Ἀλεξάνδρου ἔνεκ' ἀρχῆς.<sup>7</sup>  
 ἡμέων δ' ὅπποτέρῳ θάνατος καὶ μοῖρα τέτυκται,  
 τεθναίῃ· ἄλλοι δὲ διακρινθεῖτε τάχιστα.  
 οἴσετε ἄρν', ἕτερον λευκόν, ἐτέρην δὲ μέλαιναν,  
 Γῇ τε καὶ Ἡελίῳ· Διὶ δ' ἡμεῖς οἴσομεν ἄλλον·  
 105 ἄξετε δὲ Πριάμοιο βίην, ὅφρ' ὄρκια τάμνη  
 αὐτός, ἐπεὶ οἱ παῖδες ὑπερφίαλοι καὶ ἄπιστοι,  
 μή τις ὑπερβασίῃ Διὸς ὄρκια δηλήσῃται.  
 αἰεὶ δ' ὀπλοτέρων ἀνδρῶν φρένες ἡερέθονται.<sup>8</sup>  
 οἷς δ' ὁ γέρων μετέησιν, ἅμα πρόσσω καὶ ὀπίσσω  
 110 λεύσσει, ὅπως ὅχ' ἄριστα μετ' ἀμφοτέροισι γένηται.”  
 Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἐχάρησαν Ἀχαιοὶ τε Τρῶές τε  
 ἐλπόμενοι παύσασθαι οἰζυροῦ πολέμοιο.  
 καὶ ῥ' ἵππους μὲν ἔρυξαν ἐπὶ στίχας, ἐκ δ' ἔβαν αὐτοί,  
 τεύχεά τ' ἐξεδύοντο· τὰ μὲν κατέθεντ' ἐπὶ γαίῃ  
 115 πλησίον ἀλλήλων, ὀλίγη δ' ἦν ἀμφὶς ἄρουρα.  
 Ἐκτωρ δὲ προτὶ ἄστυ δύω κήρυκας ἔπεμπε  
 καρπαλίμως ἄρνας τε φέρειν Πριάμόν τε καλέσσαι.  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ Ταλθύβιον προΐει κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 νῆας ἔπι γλαφυρὰς ἰέναι, ἥδ' ἄρν' ἐκέλευεν  
 120 οἰσέμεναι· ὁ δ' ἄρ' οὐκ ἀπίθησ' Ἀγαμέμνονι δίω.  
 Ἴρις δ' αὖθ' Ἑλένη λευκωλένῳ ἄγγελος ἦλθεν,  
 εἰδομένη γαλόῳ, Ἀντηνορίδαο δάμαρτι,  
 τὴν Ἀντηνορίδης εἶχε κρείων Ἑλικάων,  
 Λαοδίκην, Πριάμοιο θυγατρῶν εἶδος ἀρίστην.  
 125 τὴν δ' εὖρ' ἐν μεγάρῳ. ἡ δὲ μέγαν ἰστὸν ὕφαινε,



come; my idea is that Argives and Trojans should now be parted, since you have suffered many woes because of my quarrel and Alexander's, who began it. And for whichever of us death and fate are appointed, let him die; but you others be parted with all speed. Bring two lambs, a white ram and a black ewe, for Earth and Sun, and for Zeus we will bring another; and bring here the mighty Priam, so that he may swear an oath himself—since his sons are reckless and faithless—lest someone by presumptuous act should do violence to the oaths of Zeus. Ever unstable are the hearts of the young; but whatever an old man takes part in, he looks both before and after, so that the issue may be far the best for either side.”

So he spoke, and the Achaeans and Trojans rejoiced, hoping that they had won rest from woeful war. So they held their chariots along the ranks, and themselves stepped out of them, and took off their battle gear. This they laid on the ground, close together, and there was but little space between. And Hector sent to the city two heralds quickly to fetch the lambs and to summon Priam. And Talthybius lord Agamemnon sent to the hollow ships, and told him to bring a lamb; and he did not fail to obey noble Agamemnon.

But Iris went as a messenger to white-armed Helen in the likeness of her husband's sister, the wife of Antenor's son, her that lord Helicaon, Antenor's son, had to wife, Laodice, the fairest of the daughters of Priam. She found Helen in the hall, where she was weaving a great purple

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<sup>7</sup> ἀρχῆς: ἄρης Zenodotus (cf. 6. 356 and 24. 28).

<sup>8</sup> Lines 108–110 were rejected by Aristarchus.

- δίπλακα πορφυρέην,<sup>9</sup> πολέας δ' ἐνέπασσεν ἀέθλους  
 Τρώων θ' ἵπποδάμων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων,  
 οὓς ἔθεν εἶνεκ' ἔπασχον ὑπ' Ἄρῃος παλαμάων.  
 ἀγχοῦ δ' ἵσταμένη προσέφη πόδας ὠκέα Ἴρις·  
 130 “δεῦρ' ἴθι, νύμφα φίλη, ἵνα θέσκελα ἔργα ἴδῃαι  
 Τρώων θ' ἵπποδάμων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων·  
 οἱ πρὶν ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισι φέρον πολύδακρυν Ἄρῃα  
 ἐν πεδίῳ, ὀλοοῖο λιλαιόμενοι πολέμοιο,  
 οἱ δὴ νῦν ἔαται σιγῇ, πόλεμος δὲ πέπανται,  
 135 ἀσπίσι κεκλιμένοι, παρὰ δ' ἔλχεα μακρὰ πέπηγεν.  
 αὐτὰρ Ἀλέξανδρος καὶ ἀρηίφίλος Μενέλαος  
 μακρῆς ἐγχείησι μαχήσονται περὶ σείῳ·  
 τῷ δέ κε νικήσαντι φίλη κεκλήσῃ ἄκοιτις.”  
 Ὡς εἰποῦσα θεὰ γλυκὺν ἴμερον ἔμβαλε θυμῷ  
 140 ἀνδρός τε προτέρου καὶ ἄστεος ἥδὲ τοκῆων·  
 αὐτίκα δ' ἀργεννῇσι καλυψαμένη ὀθόνησιν  
 ὀρμάτ' ἐκ θαλάμοιο τέρεν κατὰ δάκρυ χέουσα,  
 οὐκ οἶη, ἅμα τῇ γε καὶ ἀμφίπολοι δὺ' ἔποντο,  
 Αἴθρη, Πιθῆος θυγάτηρ, Κλυμένη τε βοῶπις.<sup>10</sup>  
 145 αἶψα δ' ἔπειθ' ἵκανον ὅθι Σκαιαὶ πύλαι ἦσαν.  
 Οἱ δ' ἀμφὶ Πρίαμον καὶ Πάνθοον ἥδὲ Θυμοίτην  
 Λάμπον τε Κλυτίον θ' Ἴκετάονά τ', ὅζον Ἄρῃος,  
 Οὐκαλέγων τε καὶ Ἀντήνωρ, πεπνυμένω ἄμφω,  
 ἦατο δημογέροντες ἐπὶ Σκαιῇσι πύλῃσι,  
 150 γήραϊ δὴ πολέμοιο πεπαυμένοι, ἀλλ' ἀγορηταὶ  
 ἐσθλοί, τεττίγεσσιν ἐοικότες, οἳ τε καθ' ὕλην

<sup>9</sup> πορφυρέην: μαρμαρέην.

web of double fold on which she was embroidering many battles of the horse-taming Trojans and the bronze-clad Achaeans, which for her sake they had endured at the hands of Ares. And swift-footed Iris came up to her, and spoke to her, saying: "Come here, dear sister, so that you may see the wondrous doings of the horse-taming Trojans and the bronze-clad Achaeans. They who formerly were waging tearful war against one another on the plain, their hearts set on deadly battle, they now sit in silence, and the battle has ceased, and they lean on their shields, and beside them their long spears are fixed. But Alexander and Menelaus, dear to Ares, will fight with their long spears for you; and the one who wins, his dear wife will you be called."

So spoke the goddess, and put into her heart sweet longing for her former husband and her city and parents; and immediately she veiled herself with shining linen, and started out of her chamber, letting fall round tears, not alone, for with her followed two handmaids as well, Aethra, daughter of Pittheus, and ox-eyed Clymene; and quickly they came to the place where were the Scaean gates.

And they who were about Priam and Panthous and Thymoetes and Lampus and Clytius and Hicetaon, offshoot of Ares, and Ucalegon and Antenor, men of prudence both, sat as elders of the people at the Scaean gates. Because of old age they had now ceased from battle, but they were good speakers, like cicadas that in a forest sit on

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<sup>10</sup> Line 144 was rejected by Aristarchus.

- δενδρέω ἐφεζόμενοι ὅπα λειριόεσσαν ἰεῖσι  
 τοῖοι ἄρα Τρώων ἡγήτορες ἦντ' ἐπὶ πύργῳ.  
 οἱ δ' ὥς οὖν εἶδονθ' Ἑλένην ἐπὶ πύργον ἰοῦσαν,  
 155 ἦκα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἔπεα πτερόεντ' ἀγόρευον·  
 “οὐ νέμεσις Τρώας καὶ ἐυκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 τοιῇδ' ἀμφὶ γυναικὶ πολὺν χρόνον ἄλγεα πάσχειν·  
 αἰνῶς ἀθανάτησι θεῆς εἰς ὧπα ἔοικεν·  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ὧς τοίη περ εἰῶς' ἐν νηυσὶ νεέσθω,  
 160 μῆδ' ἡμῖν τεκέεσσιν τ' ὀπίσσω πῆμα λίποιτο.”  
 Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφαν, Πρίαμος δ' Ἑλένην ἐκαλέσσατο-  
 φωνῇ·  
 “δεῦρο πάροιθ' ἐλθοῦσα, φίλον τέκος, ἵζευ ἐμεῖο,  
 ὅφρα ἴδῃς πρότερόν τε πόσιν πηοὺς τε φίλους τε—  
 οὐ τί μοι αἰτὶ ἐσσί, θεοὶ νῦ μοι αἵτιοί εἰσιν,  
 165 οἳ μοι ἐφώρμησαν πόλεμον πολὺδακρυν Ἀχαιῶν—  
 ὧς μοι καὶ τόνδ' ἄνδρα πελώριον ἐξονομήνης,  
 ὅς τις ὄδ' ἐστὶν Ἀχαιὸς ἀνὴρ ἡὺς τε μέγας τε.  
 ἦ τοι μὲν κεφαλῇ καὶ μείζονες ἄλλοι ἔασι,  
 καλὸν δ' οὕτω ἐγὼν οὐ πῶ ἴδον ὀφθαλμοῖσιν,  
 170 οὐδ' οὕτω γεραρόν· βασιλῇ γὰρ ἀνδρὶ ἔοικε.”  
 Τὸν δ' Ἑλένη μύθοισιν ἀμείβετο, δῖα γυναικῶν·  
 “αἰδοῖός τέ μοι ἐσσι, φίλε ἔκυρέ, δεινός τε.  
 ὥς ὅφελεν θάνατός μοι ἀδεῖν κακὸς ὅππότε δεῦρο  
 νίει σῶ ἐπόμην, θάλαμον γνωτοὺς τε λιποῦσα  
 175 παῖδά τε τηλυγέτην καὶ ὀμηλικίην ἐρατεινήν.  
 ἀλλὰ τά γ' οὐκ ἐγένοντο· τὸ καὶ κλαίουσα τέτηκα.  
 τοῦτο δέ τοι ἐρέω, ὃ μ' ἀνείρεαι ἡδὲ μεταλλάς·

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a tree and pour out their lily-like<sup>2</sup> voice; such were the leaders of the Trojans who were sitting on the wall. When they saw Helen coming on to the wall, softly they spoke winged words to one another: "Small blame that Trojans and well-greaved Achaeans should for such a woman long suffer woes; she is dreadfully like immortal goddesses to look on. But even so, though she is like them, let her go home on the ships, and not be left here to be a bane to us and to our children after us."

So they said, but Priam spoke, and called Helen to him: "Come here, dear child, and sit in front of me, so that you may see your former husband and your kinspeople and those dear to you—you are in no way to blame in my eyes; it is the gods, surely, who are to blame, who roused against me the tearful war of the Achaeans—and so that you may tell me who is this huge warrior, this man of Achaea so powerful and so tall. To be sure there are others who are even taller in stature, but so fair a man have my eyes never yet seen, nor one so royal: for he looks like a kingly man."

And Helen, fair among women, answered him, saying: "Respected are you in my eyes, dear father of my husband, and dread. I wish that evil death had been pleasing to me when I followed your son here, and left my bridal chamber and my kinspeople and my daughter, well-beloved, and the lovely companions of my girlhood. But that was not to be; so I pine away with weeping. But this will I tell you, about which you ask and inquire. That man is the son of

<sup>2</sup> The adjective "lily-like" applied to the voice seems a striking instance of the transference of an epithet from one field of sense perception to another, which often meets us; cf. Hesiod, *Theog.* 41; and Apoll. Rhod. 4. 903. M. For the meaning, see Kirk's commentary *ad loc.* W.

- οὗτός γ' Ἀτρεΐδης εὐρὺν κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 ἀμφοτέρων βασιλεύς τ' ἀγαθὸς κρατερός τ' αἰχμητής.  
 180 δαῆρ αὐτ' ἐμὸς ἔσκε κυνώπιδος, εἴ ποτ' ἔην γε.”
- ᾧ φάτο, τὸν δ' ὁ γέρων ἠγάσσατο φώνησέν τε·  
 “ὦ μάκαρ Ἀτρεΐδῃ, μοιρηγενές, ὀλβιόδαιμον,  
 ἦ ρά νύ τοι πολλοὶ δεδμήατο κοῦροι Ἀχαιῶν.  
 ἤδη καὶ Φρυγίην εἰσήλυθον ἀμπελόεσσιν,  
 185 ἔνθα ἴδον πλείστους Φρύγας ἀνέρας αἰολοπώλους,  
 λαοὺς Ὀτρῆος καὶ Μυγδόνοιο ἀντιθέοιο,  
 οἳ ρά τότε ἑστρατόωντο παρ' ὄχθας Σαγγαρίοιο·  
 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼν ἐπίκουρος ἐὼν μετὰ τοῖσιν ἐλέχθην  
 ἡματι τῷ ὅτε τ' ἦλθον Ἀμαζόνες ἀντιάνειραι·  
 190 ἀλλ' οὐδ' οἱ τόσοι ἦσαν ὅσοι ἐλίκωπες Ἀχαιοί.”
- Δεύτερον αὐτ' Ὀδυσῆα ἰδὼν ἐρέειν ὁ γεραίος·  
 “εἴπ' ἄγε μοι καὶ τόνδε, φίλον τέκον, ὅς τις ὅδ' ἐστί·  
 μείων μὲν κεφαλῇ Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδαο,  
 εὐρύτερος δ' ὠμοῖσιν ἰδὲ στέρνοισιν ἰδέσθαι.  
 195 τεύχεα μὲν οἱ κεῖται ἐπὶ χθονὶ πουλυβοτείρῃ,  
 αὐτὸς δὲ κτίλος ὥς ἐπιπωλεῖται στίχας ἀνδρῶν·  
 ἀρνεῖω μιν ἔγωγε εἴσκω πηγεσιμάλλω,  
 ὅς τ' οἴων μέγα πῶν διέρχεται ἀργεννάων.”
- Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειθ' Ἑλένη Διὸς ἐκγεγαυῖα·  
 200 “οὗτος δ' αὖ Λαερτιάδης πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς,  
 ὃς τράφη ἐν δήμῳ Ἰθάκης κραναῆς περ ἐούσης  
 εἰδὼς παντοίους τε δόλους καὶ μῆδεα πυκνά.”
- Τὴν δ' αὐτ' Ἀντήνωρ πεπνυμένος ἀντίον ἦ᾽δα·  
 “ὦ γύναι, ἦ μάλα τοῦτο ἔπος νημερτὲς ἔειπες·  
 205 ἤδη γὰρ καὶ δεῦρό ποτ' ἦλυθε δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς

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Atreus, wide-ruling Agamemnon, who is both a noble king and a mighty spearman. And he was husband's brother to shameless me, if ever there was such a one."

So she spoke, and the old man was seized with wonder, and said: "Ah, happy son of Atreus, child of fortune, blest by the gods; many youths of the Achaeans have been made subject to you I see. Before now I have journeyed to the land of Phrygia, rich in vines, and there I saw in multitudes the Phrygian warriors, masters of glancing steeds, the men of Otreus and godlike Mygdon, who were then encamped along the banks of Sangarius. For I, too, being their ally, was numbered among them on the day when the Amazons came, the peers of men. But not even they were as many as are the bright-eyed Achaeans."

And next the old man saw Odysseus, and asked: "Come now, tell me also of that man there, dear child, who he is. Shorter is he in stature than Agamemnon, son of Atreus, but broader of shoulder and chest to look upon. His battle gear lies on the bounteous earth, but he himself ranges like the bellwether of a herd through the ranks of warriors. To a ram I liken him, a ram of thick fleece, that paces through a great flock of white ewes."

To him answered Helen, sprung from Zeus: "That one is Laertes' son, Odysseus of many wiles, who was reared in the land of Ithaca, rugged though it is, and he knows all manner of tricks and cunning devices."

Then to her in turn answered Antenor, the prudent: "Lady, that is a true word that you have spoken, for once before also noble Odysseus came here on an embassy con-

- σεῦ ἔνεκ' ἀγγελίης σὺν ἀρηιφίλῳ Μενελάῳ  
 τοὺς δ' ἐγὼ ἐξείνισσα καὶ ἐν μεγάροισι φίλησα.  
 ἀμφοτέρων δὲ φυὴν ἐδάην καὶ μήδεα πυκνά.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ Τρώεσσιν ἐν ἀγρομένοισιν ἔμιχθεν,  
 210 στάντων μὲν Μενέλαος ὑπείρεχεν εὐρέας ὦμους,  
 ἄμφω δ' ἐξομένῳ γεραρώτερος ἦεν Ὀδυσσεύς.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ μύθους καὶ μήδεα πᾶσιν ὕφαινον,  
 ἦ τοι μὲν Μενέλαος ἐπιτροχάδην ἀγόρευε,  
 παῦρα μὲν, ἀλλὰ μάλα λιγέως, ἐπεὶ οὐ πολὺμυθος  
 215 οὐδ' ἀφामαρτοεπής, εἰ καὶ γένει ὕστερος ἦεν.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ πολύμητις ἀναΐξιεν Ὀδυσσεύς,  
 στάσκειν, ὑπαὶ δὲ ἴδεσκε κατὰ χθονὸς ὄμματα πῆξας,  
 σκῆπτρον δ' οὔτ' ὀπίσω οὔτε προπρηγνὲς ἐνώμα,  
 ἀλλ' ἀστεμφὲς ἔχεσκειν, αἰδρεῖ φωτὶ ἐοικώς·  
 220 φαίης κε ζάκοτόν τέ τιν' ἔμμεναι ἄφρονά τ' αὐτως.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ὅπα τε μεγάλην ἐκ στήθεος εἶη  
 καὶ ἔπεα νιφάδεσσιν ἐοικότα χειμερίησιν,  
 οὐκ ἂν ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆι γ' ἐρίσσειε βροτὸς ἄλλος·  
 οὐ τότε γ' ὦδ' Ὀδυσῆος ἀγασσάμεθ' εἶδος ἰδόντες.”  
 225 Τὸ τρίτον αὖτ' Αἴαντα ἰδὼν ἐρέειν ὁ γεραιός·  
 “τίς τ' ἄρ' ὅδ' ἄλλος Ἀχαιοὺς ἀνὴρ ἡὺς τε μέγας τε,  
 ἔξοχος Ἀργείων κεφαλὴν τε καὶ εὐρέας ὦμους;”  
 Τὸν δ' Ἑλένη τανύπεπλος ἀμείβετο, δῖα γυναικῶν·  
 “οὔτος δ' Αἴας ἐστὶ πελώριος, ἔρκος Ἀχαιῶν·  
 230 Ἴδομενεὺς δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐνὶ Κρήτεσσι θεὸς ὥς  
 ἔστηκε, ἀμφὶ δέ μιν Κρητῶν ἀγοὶ ἡγερέθονται.  
 πολλάκι μιν ξείνισσεν ἀρηίφιλος Μενέλαος  
 οἴκῳ ἐν ἡμετέρῳ, ὅποτε Κρήτηθεν ἵκοιτο.



cerning you, together with Menelaus, dear to Ares; and it was I who gave them hospitality and welcomed them in my halls, and came to know the form and stature of them both and their cunning devices. Now when they mingled with the Trojans in assembly, when they stood, Menelaus overtopped him with his broad shoulders; but when the two were seated, Odysseus was the more royal. But when they began to weave the web of words and of devices in the presence of all, Menelaus to be sure spoke fluently, with few words, but very clearly, since he was not a man of lengthy speech nor rambling, even though in years he was the younger. But whenever Odysseus of many wiles arose, he would stand and look down with eyes fixed on the ground, and his staff he would move neither backwards nor forwards, but would hold it stiff like a man of no understanding; you would have thought him some sort of a churl and nothing but a fool. But when he projected his great voice from his chest, and words like snowflakes on a winter's day, then could no other mortal man rival Odysseus; then we were not so astonished at Odysseus' appearance."

And, thirdly, the old man saw Aias, and asked: "Who then is this other Achaean warrior, powerful and tall, towering above the Argives with his head and broad shoulders?"

And to him answered long-robed Helen, fair among women: "That is huge Aias, bulwark of the Achaeans. And Idomeneus stands to one side of him among the Cretans like a god, and about him are gathered the leaders of the Cretans. Often Menelaus, dear to Ares, used to entertain him in our house, whenever he came from Crete. Now I

- νῦν δ' ἄλλους μὲν πάντας ὀρώ ἐλίκωπας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 235 οὓς κεν ἐν γνοίην καί τ' οὔνομα μυθησαίμην·  
 δοιῶ δ' οὐ δύναμαι ἰδέειν κοσμήτορε λαῶν,  
 Κάστορά θ' ἱππόδαμον καὶ πύξ ἀγαθὸν Πολυδεύκεα,  
 αὐτοκασιγνήτω, τῷ μοι μία γείνατο μήτηρ.  
 ἦ οὐχ ἐσπέσθην Λακεδαίμονος ἐξ ἐρατεινῆς,  
 240 ἦ δεύρω μὲν ἔποντο νέεσσ' ἐνὶ ποντοπόροισι,  
 νῦν αὖτ' οὐκ ἐθέλουσι μάχην καταδύμεναι ἀνδρῶν,  
 αἴσχεα δειδιότες καὶ ὀνείδεα πόλλ' ἅ μοί ἐστιν.”  
 Ὡς φάτο, τοὺς δ' ἤδη κάτεχεν φυσιζοὺς αἶα  
 ἐν Λακεδαίμονι αὖθι, φίλῃ ἐν πατρίδι γαίῃ.  
 245 Κήρυκες δ' ἀνὰ ἄστνυ θεῶν φέρον ὄρκια πιστά,  
 ἄρνε δύω καὶ οἶνον εὐφρονα, καρπὸν ἀρούρης,  
 ἀσκῶ ἐν αἰγείῳ. φέρε δὲ κρητῆρα φαεινὸν  
 κῆρυξ Ἰδαῖος ἥδὲ χρύσεια κύπελλα·  
 ὄτρυνεν δὲ γέροντα παριστάμενος ἐπέεσσιν·  
 250 “ὄρσεο, Λαομεδοντιάδῃ, καλέουσιν ἄριστοι  
 Τρώων θ' ἱπποδάμων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων  
 ἐς πεδίον καταβῆναι, ἔν' ὄρκια πιστὰ τάμητε.  
 αὐτὰρ Ἀλέξανδρος καὶ ἀρηίφιλος Μενέλαος  
 μακρῆς ἐγχείησι μαχήσονται ἀμφὶ γυναικί·  
 255 τῷ δέ κε νικήσαντι γυνὴ καὶ κτήμαθ' ἔποιτο·  
 οἱ δ' ἄλλοι φιλότητα καὶ ὄρκια πιστὰ ταμόντες  
 ναίοιμεν Τροίην ἐριβόλακα, τοὶ δὲ νέονται  
 Ἄργος ἐς ἱππόβοτον καὶ Ἀχαιίδα καλλιγύναικα.”  
 Ὡς φάτο, ρίγησεν δ' ὁ γέρων, ἐκέλευσε δ' ἐταίρους  
 260 ἵππους ζευγνύμεναι· τοὶ δ' ὀτραλέως ἐπίθοντο.  
 ἂν δ' ἄρ' ἔβη Πρίαμος, κατὰ δ' ἡνία τείνεν ὀπίσσω·

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see all the rest of the bright-eyed Achaeans, whom I could well recognize and tell their names; but two marshalers of armies can I not see, Castor, tamer of horses, and Polydeuces, good at boxing, my own brothers, whom the same mother bore. Either they did not follow with the army from lovely Lacedaemon or, though they followed here in their seafaring ships, they are now not minded to enter into the battle of warriors for fear of the reproachful words and the many revilings that are mine."

So she spoke; but the life-giving earth already held them fast there in Lacedaemon, in their dear native land.

Meanwhile the heralds were carrying through the city the oath offerings to the gods, two lambs and, in a goatskin bottle, wine that gladdens the heart, the fruit of the earth. And the herald Idaeus was carrying a shining bowl and golden cups; and he came to the old king's side and roused him, saying: "Rise, son of Laomedon, the chief men of the horse-taming Trojans and of the bronze-clad Achaeans summon you to go down into the plain, so that you may swear solemn oaths. But Alexander and Menelaus, dear to Ares, will do battle with long spears for the woman's sake; and whichever of the two shall win, him woman and treasure will follow; and the rest of us, when we have sworn friendship and solemn oaths, may we live in deep-soiled Troy, but they will depart to Argos, pastureland of horses, and Achaea, land of fair women."

So he spoke, and the old man shuddered, but ordered his companions to yoke the horses; and they speedily obeyed. Then Priam mounted and drew back the reins,

παρ δέ οἱ Ἀντήνωρ περικαλλέα βήσετο δίφρον·  
τῷ δὲ διὰ Σκαιῶν πεδίωνδ' ἔχον ὠκέας ἵππους.

- Ἄλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἵκοντο μετὰ Τρῶας καὶ Ἀχαιοὺς,  
265 ἔξ ἵππων ἀποβάντες ἐπὶ χθόνα πουλυβότειραν  
ἔς μέσσον Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν ἐστιχόωντο.  
ὄρνυτο δ' αὐτίκ' ἔπειτα ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων,  
ἄν δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς πολύμητις· ἀτὰρ κήρυκες ἀγανοὶ  
ὄρκια πιστὰ θεῶν σύναγον, κρητῆρι δὲ οἶνον  
270 μίσγον, ἀτὰρ βασιλεῦσιν ὕδωρ ἐπὶ χεῖρας ἔχευαν.  
Ἀτρεΐδης δὲ ἐρυστάμενος χεῖρεσσι μάχαιραν,  
ἣ οἱ παρ ξίφεος μέγα κουλεὸν αἰὲν ἄωρτο,  
ἀρνῶν ἐκ κεφαλέων τάμνε τρίχας· αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα  
κήρυκες Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν νεῖμαν ἀρίστοις.  
275 τοῖσιν δ' Ἀτρεΐδης μεγάλ' εὐχέτο χεῖρας ἀνασχών·  
“Ζεῦ πάτερ, Ἰδηθεν μεδέων, κύδιστε, μέγιστε,  
Ἥελιός θ', ὃς πάντ' ἐφορᾷς καὶ πάντ' ἐπακούεις,  
καὶ ποταμοὶ καὶ γαῖα, καὶ οἱ ὑπένερθε καμόντας  
ἀνθρώπους τίνυσθον, ὅτις κ' ἐπίορκον ὁμόσση,  
280 ὑμεῖς μάρτυροι ἔστε, φυλάσσετε δ' ὄρκια πιστά.  
εἰ μὲν κεν Μενέλαον Ἀλέξανδρος καταπέφνη,  
αὐτὸς ἔπειθ' Ἑλένην ἐχέτω καὶ κτήματα πάντα,  
ἡμεῖς δ' ἐν νήεσσι νεώμεθα ποντοπόροισιν.<sup>11</sup>  
εἰ δέ κ' Ἀλέξανδρον κτείνῃ ξανθὸς Μενέλαος,  
285 Τρῶας ἔπειθ' Ἑλένην καὶ κτήματα πάντ' ἀποδοῦναι,  
τιμὴν δ' Ἀργείοις ἀποτινέμεν ἣν τιν' ἔοικεν,  
ἣ τε καὶ ἐσσομένοισι μετ' ἀνθρώποισι πέληται.  
εἰ δ' ἂν ἐμοὶ τιμὴν Πριάμος Πριάμοιό τε παῖδες  
τίνειν οὐκ ἐθέλωσιν Ἀλεξάνδριοι πεσόντος,

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and by his side Antenor mounted the beautiful chariot; and they drove the swift horses through the Scaean gates to the plain.

But when they came to the Trojans and Achaeans, they stepped from the chariot on to the bounteous earth, and went into the space between the Trojans and Achaeans. Immediately then rose up Agamemnon, lord of men, and Odysseus of many wiles, and the lordly heralds brought together the oath offerings for the gods, and mixed the wine in the bowl, and poured water over the hands of the kings. And the son of Atreus drew out with his hand the knife that always hung beside the great sheath of his sword, and cut hair from the heads of the lambs; and then the heralds portioned it out to the chief men of the Trojans and Achaeans. Then Agamemnon lifted up his hands and prayed aloud for them: "Father Zeus, who rule from Ida, most glorious, most great, and you Sun, who see all things and hear all things, and you rivers and you earth, and you who in the world below take vengeance on men who are done with life, whoever has sworn a false oath: be witnesses, and watch over the solemn oaths. If Alexander kills Menelaus, then let him keep Helen and all her treasure; and let us depart in our seafaring ships. But if tawny-haired Menelaus kills Alexander, then let the Trojans give back Helen and all her treasure, and pay to the Argives such recompense as is proper, such as will remain in the minds of men who are yet to be. But if Priam and the sons of Priam are not minded to pay recompense to me when Alexander falls,

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<sup>11</sup> Line 283 is omitted in some MSS.

290 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ καὶ ἔπειτα μαχήσομαι εἵνεκα ποινῆς  
αὐθι μένων, ἧός κε τέλος πολέμοιο κιχείω.”

Ἦ, καὶ ἀπὸ στομάχους ἀρνῶν τάμε νηλεί χαλκῶ·  
καὶ τοὺς μὲν κατέθηκεν ἐπὶ χθονὸς ἀσπαίροντας,  
θυμοῦ δευομένους· ἀπὸ γὰρ μένος εἵλετο χαλκός.  
295 οἶνον δ' ἐκ κρητῆρος ἀφυσσόμενοι δεπάεσσιν  
ἔκχεον, ἡδ' εὖχοντο θεοῖς αἰειγενέτησιν.  
ᾧδε δέ τις εἶπεσκεν Ἀχαιῶν τε Τρώων τε·  
“Ζεῦ κύδιστε μέγιστε, καὶ ἀθάνατοι θεοὶ ἄλλοι,  
ὅππότεροι πρότεροι ὑπὲρ ὄρκια πημήνεια,  
300 ᾧδέ σφ' ἐγκέφαλος χαμάδις ῥέει ὡς ὅδε οἶνος,  
αὐτῶν καὶ τεκέων, ἄλοχοι δ' ἄλλοισι δαμεῖν.”<sup>12</sup>

Ὡς ἔφαν, οὐδ' ἄρα πῶ σφιν ἐπεκράαινε Κρονίων.  
τοῖσι δὲ Δαρδανίδης Πρίαμος μετὰ μῦθον ἔειπε·  
“κέκλυτέ μεν, Τρῶες καὶ ἐκνημίδες Ἀχαιοί·  
305 ἦ τοι ἐγὼν εἶμι προτὶ Ἴλιον ἡνεμόεσσαν  
ἄψ, ἐπεὶ οὐ πῶ τλήσομ' ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ὀράσθαι  
μαρνάμενον φίλον νιδὸν ἀρηιφίλῳ Μενελάῳ·  
Ζεὺς μὲν που τό γε οἶδε καὶ ἀθάνατοι θεοὶ ἄλλοι,  
ὅπποτέρῳ θανάτοιο τέλος πεπρωμένον ἐστίν.”

310 Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἐς δίφρον ἄρνας θέτο ἰσόθεος φῶς,  
ἂν δ' ἄρ' ἔβαιν' αὐτός, κατὰ δ' ἡνία τέινεν ὀπίσσω·  
παρ δέ οἱ Ἀντήνωρ περικαλλέα βήσετο δίφρον.  
τὼ μὲν ἄρ' ἄψορροι προτὶ Ἴλιον ἀπονέοντο·  
Ἔκτωρ δὲ Πρίαμοιο πάις καὶ δῖος Ὀδυσσεὺς  
315 χῶρον μὲν πρῶτον διεμέτρεον, αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα  
κλήρους ἐν κυνέῃ χαλκῆρεϊ πάλλον ἐλόντες,  
ὅππότερος δὴ πρόσθεν ἀφείη χάλκεον ἔγχος.

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then will I fight on even then, to get recompense, and will remain here until I find an end of war."

He spoke, and cut the lambs' throats with the pitiless bronze; and laid them down on the ground gasping and failing of breath, for the bronze had robbed them of their strength. Then they drew wine from the bowl into the cups, poured it out, and made prayer to the gods who are for ever. And thus would one of the Achaeans and Trojans say: "Zeus, most glorious, most great, and you other immortal gods, whichever army of the two will be first to work harm in defiance of the oaths, may their brains be poured out on the ground just as this wine is, theirs and their children's; and may their wives be made to serve other men."

So they spoke; but not yet would the son of Cronos grant them fulfillment. Then to them spoke Priam, Dardanus' son, saying: "Hear me, Trojans and well-greaved Achaeans. I will go back to windy Ilios, since in no way can I bear to see with my eyes my dear son doing battle with Menelaus, dear to Ares. But this, I suppose, Zeus knows, and the other immortal gods, for which of the two the doom of death is ordained."

So spoke the godlike man, and had the lambs placed in his chariot, and himself mounted, and drew back the reins, and by his side Antenor mounted the beautiful chariot; and the two went back to Ilios. But Hector, Priam's son, and noble Odysseus first measured out a space, and then took the lots and shook them in the brazen helmet, to know which of the two should first let fly his spear of bronze. And

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<sup>12</sup> δαμείεν: μιγείεν.

λαοὶ δ' ἠρήσαντο, θεοῖσι δὲ χεῖρας ἀνέσχον,  
ὦδε δέ τις εἶπεν Ἀχαιῶν τε Τρώων τε·

- 320 “Ζεῦ πάτερ, Ἰδθ' ἔναι μεδέων, κύνειστέ, μέγιστε,  
ὁππότερος τάδε ἔργα μετ' ἀμφοτέροισιν ἔθηκε,  
τὸν δὲς ἀποφθίμενον δύναι δόμον Ἀΐδος εἴσω.  
ἡμῖν δ' αὖ φιλότῃ καὶ ὄρκῳ πιστὰ γενέσθαι.”

ὣς ἄρ' ἔφην, πάλιν δὲ μέγας κορυθαίολος  
ἔκτωρ

- 325 ἄψ' ὁρώων· Πάριος δὲ θοῶς ἐκ κλῆρος ὄρουσεν.  
οἱ μὲν ἔπειθ' ἵζοντο κατὰ στίχας, ἦχι ἐκάστῳ  
ἵπποι ἀερσίποδες καὶ ποικίλα τεύχεα κείτο.  
αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ἀμφ' ὥμοισιν ἐδύσετο τεύχεα καλὰ  
δῖος Ἀλέξανδρος, Ἑλένης πόσις ἡυκόμοιο.  
330 κνημίδας μὲν πρῶτα περὶ κνήμησιν ἔθηκε  
καλάς, ἀργυρέοισιν ἐπισφυρίοις ἀραρυίας·  
δεύτερον αὖ θώρηκα περὶ στήθεσσι ἐδυνεν  
οἷο κασιγνήτοιο Λυκάονος· ἤρμοσε δ' αὐτῷ.  
ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' ὥμοισιν βάλετο ξίφος ἀργυρόηλον<sup>13</sup>  
335 χάλκεον, αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα σάκος μέγα τε στιβαρόν τε·  
κρατὶ δ' ἐπ' ἰφθίμῳ κνήμην εὐτυκτον ἔθηκεν  
ἵππουριν· δεινὸν δὲ λόφος καθύπερθεν ἔνευεν·  
εἴλετο δ' ἄλκιμον ἔγχος, ὃ οἱ παλάμηφιν ἀρήρει.<sup>14</sup>  
ὥς δ' αὐτως Μενέλαος ἀρήσιος ἔντε' ἔδυνεν.  
340 Οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν ἑκάτερθεν ὁμίλου θωρήχθησαν,  
ἔς μέσσον Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν ἐστιχόωντο  
δεινὸν δερκόμενοι· θάμβος δ' ἔχεν εἰσορόωντας  
Τρώας θ' ἵπποδάμους καὶ ἐκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοῦς·  
καί ῥ' ἐγγὺς στήτην διαμετρητῷ ἐνὶ χώρῳ



the armies made prayer and lifted up their hands to the gods; and thus would one of the Achaeans and Trojans speak: "Father Zeus, who rule from Ida, most glorious, most great, whichever of the two it is that brought these troubles on both peoples, grant that he may die and enter the house of Hades, but to us may there come friendship and solemn oaths."

So they spoke, and great Hector of the flashing helmet shook the lots, looking away; and immediately the lot of Paris leapt out. Then the people sat down in ranks, where each man's high-stepping horses stood, and his inlaid armor was placed. And he put on about his shoulders his beautiful armor, noble Alexander, the husband of fair-haired Helen. The greaves first he set about his legs; beautiful they were, and fitted with silver ankle pieces; next he put on about his chest the corselet of his brother Lycaon, and fitted it to himself. And about his shoulders he cast his silver-studded sword of bronze, and then his shield great and sturdy; and on his mighty head he set a well-made helmet with horse-hair crest—and terribly did the plume nod from above—and he took a valiant spear, that fitted his grasp. And in the same way warlike Menelaus put on his battle gear.

And when they had armed themselves on either side of the throng, they strode into the space between the Trojans and Achaeans, glaring terribly; and amazement came on them as they watched, both the Trojans, tamers of horses, and the well-greaved Achaeans; and they came together

<sup>13</sup> Lines 334 f were rejected by Zenodotus.

<sup>14</sup> After 338 Zenodotus added a line,

*ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' ὤμοισιν βάλετ' ἀσπίδα τερσανόεσσαν.*

- 345 σείοντ' ἐγχείας ἀλλήλοισιν κοτέοντε.  
 πρόσθε δ' Ἀλέξανδρος προΐει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος,  
 καὶ βάλεν Ἀτρεΐδαο κατ' ἀσπίδα πάντοσ' εἴσῃν,  
 οὐδ' ἔρρηξεν χαλκός, ἀνεγνάμφθη δέ οἱ αἰχμὴ  
 ἀσπὶδ' ἐνὶ κρατερῇ. ὁ δὲ δεύτερον ὄρνυτο χαλκῷ
- 350 Ἀτρεΐδης Μενέλαος ἐπευξάμενος Διὶ πατρί·  
 “Ζεῦ ἄνα, δὸς τίσασθαι ὃ με πρότερος κάκ' ἔοργε,  
 δῖον Ἀλέξανδρον, καὶ ἐμῆς ὑπὸ χερσὶ δάμασσον,<sup>15</sup>  
 ὄφρα τις ἐρρίγησι καὶ ὀψιγόνων ἀνθρώπων  
 ξεινοδόκον κακὰ ῥέξαι, ὃ κεν φιλότητα παράσχη.”
- 355 Ἡ ῥα, καὶ ἀμπεπαλὼν προΐει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος,  
 καὶ βάλε Πριαμίδαο κατ' ἀσπίδα πάντοσ' εἴσῃν.  
 διὰ μὲν ἀσπίδος ἦλθε φαεινῆς ὄβριμον ἔγχος,  
 καὶ διὰ θώρηκος πολυδαιδάλου ἡρήρειστο·  
 ἀντικρὺ δὲ παρὰ λαπάρην διάμησε χιτῶνα
- 360 ἔγχος· ὁ δ' ἐκλίνθη καὶ ἀλεύατο κῆρα μέλαιναν.  
 Ἀτρεΐδης δὲ ἐρυσσάμενος ξίφος ἀργυρόηλον  
 πλήξεν ἀνασχόμενος κόρυθος θάλον· ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' αὐτῷ  
 τριχθὰ τε καὶ τετραχθὰ διατρυφὲν ἔκπεσε χειρός.  
 Ἀτρεΐδης δ' ὤμωξεν ἰδὼν εἰς οὐρανὸν εὐρύν·
- 365 “Ζεῦ πάτερ, οὗ τις σείῳ θεῶν ὀλοώτερος ἄλλος·  
 ἦ τ' ἐφάμην τίσασθαι Ἀλέξανδρον κακότητος·  
 νῦν δέ μοι ἐν χείρεσσιν ἄγῃ ξίφος, ἐκ δέ μοι ἔγχος  
 ἤϊχθη παλάμηφιν ἐτώσιον, οὐδ' ἔβαλόν μιν.”<sup>16</sup>
- Ἡ, καὶ ἐπαΐξας κόρυθος λάβεν ἵπποδασείης,
- 370 ἔλκε δ' ἐπιστρέψας μετ' ἐυκνήμιδας Ἀχαιούς·

<sup>15</sup> Line 352 was rejected by Aristarchus.

in the measured space, brandishing their spears in wrath at each other. First Alexander hurled his far-shadowing spear, and struck the son of Atreus' shield that was well balanced on every side ; the bronze did not break through, but its point was turned in the mighty shield. Next Atreus' son, Menelaus, rushed at him with his spear, and made a prayer to father Zeus: "Zeus, lord, grant that I may get revenge on him who first did me wrong, noble Alexander, and subdue him beneath my hands; so that many a man, even of those yet to be, may shudder to do harm to the host who shows him friendship."

He spoke, and poised his far-shadowing spear, and hurled it; and he struck the son of Priam's shield, that was well balanced on every side. Through the bright shield went the mighty spear, and through the corselet, richly worked, did it force its way; and straight on beside his flank the spear sheared through his tunic; but he leaned aside and escaped black fate. Then the son of Atreus drew his silver-studded sword, and raising himself up struck the ridge of his helmet; but on it his sword shattered into three and four pieces, and fell from his hand. Then the son of Atreus uttered a bitter cry looking up to the broad heaven: "Father Zeus, than you is no other god more baneful. I thought that I had surely got my revenge on Alexander for his wickedness, but now is my sword broken in my hands, and from my grasp has my spear flown in vain, and I struck him not."

So saying, he sprang on him, and seized him by the helmet with thick crest of horsehair, and whirling him about began to drag him towards the well-greaved Achaeans; and

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<sup>16</sup> οὐδ' ἔβαλόν μιν: οὐδ' ἐδάμασσα Aristarchus.

- ἄγχε δέ μιν πολύκεστος ἰμὰς ἀπαλὴν ὑπὸ δειρήν,  
 ὅς οἱ ὑπ' ἀνθερεῶνος ὀχεὺς τέτατο τρυφαλείης.  
 καὶ νύ κεν εἵρυσσέν τε καὶ ἄσπετον ἦρατο κῦδος,  
 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' ὄξυν νόησε Διὸς θυγάτηρ Ἀφροδίτη,  
 375 ἥ οἱ ῥῆξεν ἰμάντα βοὸς ἱφι κταμένοιο·  
 κεινὴ δὲ τρυφάλεια ἅμ' ἔσπετο χειρὶ παχείῃ.  
 τὴν μὲν ἔπειθ' ἦρωσ μετ' ἐνκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 ῥῖψ' ἐπιδιδήσας, κόμισαν δ' ἐρίηρες ἐταῖροι·  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ ἄψ' ἐπόρουσε κατακτάμεναι μενεαίνων  
 380 ἔγχεϊ χαλκείῳ· τὸν δ' ἐξήρπαξ' Ἀφροδίτη  
 ῥεῖα μάλ' ὥς τε θεός, ἐκάλυνε δ' ἄρ' ἠέρι πολλῇ,  
 καδ δ' εἶσ' ἐν θαλάμῳ εὐώδεϊ κηῶντι.  
 αὐτὴ δ' αὖθ' Ἑλένην καλέουσ' ἵε· τὴν δ' ἐκίχανε  
 πύργῳ ἐφ' ὑψηλῷ, περὶ δὲ Τρῳαὶ ἄλις ἦσαν.  
 385 χειρὶ δὲ νεκταρέου ἑανοῦ ἐτίναξε λαβοῦσα,  
 γρηὶ δέ μιν εἰκυῖα παλαιγενεὶ προσέειπεν  
 εἰροκόμῳ, ἥ οἱ Λακεδαίμονι ναιεταῶσῃ  
 ἦσκειν εἴρια καλά, μάλιστα δέ μιν φιλέεσκε·  
 τῇ μιν ἐεισταμένη προσεφώνεε δι' Ἀφροδίτη·  
 390 “δεῦρ' ἴθ'· Ἀλέξανδρός σε καλεῖ οἰκόνδε νέεσθαι.  
 κείνος ὃ γ' ἐν θαλάμῳ καὶ δινωτοῖσι λέχεσσι,  
 κάλλεϊ τε στίλβων καὶ εἵμασιν· οὐδέ κε φαίης  
 ἀνδρὶ μαχεσσάμενον τόν γ' ἐλθεῖν, ἀλλὰ χορόνδε  
 ἔρχεσθ', ἥ ἐ χοροῖο νέον λήγοντα καθίζειν.”  
 395 “Ὡς φάτο, τῇ δ' ἄρα θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ὄρινε·  
 καὶ ῥ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησε θεᾶς περικαλλέα δειρήν  
 στήθεά δ' ἱμερόεντα καὶ ὄμματα μαρμαίροντα,  
 θάμβησέν τ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·

Paris was choked by the richly embroidered strap beneath his soft throat, that was drawn tight beneath his chin to hold his helmet. And now would Menelaus have dragged him away, and won boundless glory, had not Aphrodite, daughter of Zeus, been quick to notice, and broken the strap, cut from the hide of a slaughtered ox; and the empty helmet came away in his stout hand. This the warrior then swung and tossed into the company of the well-greaved Achaeans, and his trusty comrades gathered it up; but he sprang back again, eager to kill with his spear of bronze. But him Aphrodite snatched up, very easily as a goddess can, and shrouded him in thick mist, and set him down in his fragrant, vaulted chamber, and then herself went to summon Helen. Her she found on the high wall, and round about her in throngs were the women of Troy. Then with her hand the goddess laid hold of her fragrant robe, and plucked it, and spoke to her in the likeness of an old woman, a wool-comber, who used to card the fair wool for her when she lived in Lacedaemon, and whom she especially loved; in her likeness fair Aphrodite spoke: "Come here; Alexander calls you to go home. There he is in his chamber and on his inlaid bed, gleaming with beauty and garments. You would not say that he had come there from fighting with a foe, but rather that he was going to the dance, or was sitting there having just recently ceased from the dance."

So she spoke, and stirred Helen's heart in her breast; and when she caught sight of the beauteous neck of the goddess, her lovely bosom, and her flashing eyes, she was struck with wonder, and she spoke, and addressed her, say-

“δαιμονίη, τί με ταῦτα λιλαίεαι ἡπεροπεύειν;  
 400 ἦ πῆ με προτέρω πολίων εὖ ναιομενάων  
 ἄξεις, ἦ Φρυγίης ἢ Μηονίης ἐρατεινῆς,  
 εἴ τίς τοι καὶ κείθι φίλος μερόπων ἀνθρώπων,  
 οὔνεκα δὴ νῦν δῖον Ἀλέξανδρον Μενέλαος  
 νικήσας ἐθέλει στυγερὴν ἐμὲ οἴκαδ’ ἄγεσθαι;  
 405 τοὔνεκα δὴ νῦν δεῦρο δολοφρονέουσα παρέστης.  
 ἦσο παρ’ αὐτὸν ἰούσα, θεῶν δ’ ἀπόεικε κελεύθου,<sup>17</sup>  
 μηδ’ ἔτι σοῖσι πόδεσσιν ὑποστρέψειας Ὀλυμπον,  
 ἀλλ’ αἰεὶ περὶ κείνον οἴζυε καὶ ἐφύλασσε,  
 εἰς ὃ κέ σ’ ἦ ἄλοχον ποιήσεται, ἦ ὃ γε δούλην.  
 410 κείσε δ’ ἐγὼν οὐκ εἶμι—νεμεσσητὸν δέ κεν εἴη—  
 κείνου πορσανέουσα λέχος· Τρῳαὶ δέ μ’ ὀπίσσω  
 πᾶσαι μωμήσονται· ἔχω δ’ ἄχε’ ἄκριτα θυμῷ.”

Τὴν δὲ χολωσαμένη προσεφώνεε δι’ Ἀφροδίτη·  
 “μή μ’ ἔρεθε, σχετλίη, μὴ χωσαμένη σε μεθείω,  
 415 τὼς δέ σ’ ἀπεχθήρῳ ὥς νῦν ἔκπαγλα φίλησα,  
 μέσσω δ’ ἀμφοτέρων μητίσομαι ἔχθεα λυγρά,  
 Τρώων καὶ Δαναῶν, σὺ δέ κεν κακὸν οἶτον ὄλῃαι.”

Ὡς ἔφατ’, ἔδδεισεν δ’ Ἑλένη Διὸς ἐκγεγαυῖα,  
 βῆ δὲ κατασχομένη ἐανῶ ἀργῇτι φαιινῷ  
 420 σιγῇ, πάσας δὲ Τρῳὰς λάθην· ἦρχε δὲ δαίμων.  
 Αἶ δ’ ὅτ’ Ἀλεξάνδροιο δόμον περικαλλέ’ ἵκοντο,  
 ἀμφίπολοι μὲν ἔπειτα θοῶς ἐπὶ ἔργα τράποντο,  
 ἦ δ’ εἰς ὑψόροφον θάλαμον κίε δῖα γυναικῶν.<sup>18</sup>  
 τῇ δ’ ἄρα δίφρον ἐλοῦσα φιλομμειδῆς Ἀφροδίτη  
 425 ἀντί’ Ἀλεξάνδροιο θεὰ κατέθηκε φέρουσα.  
 ἔνθα κάθιζ’ Ἑλένη, κούρη Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο,

ing: "Strange goddess, why is your heart set on deceiving me in this way? Will you lead me still further on to one of the well-peopled cities of Phrygia or lovely Maeonia, if there too there is some one of mortal men who is dear to you, because now Menelaus has defeated noble Alexander and is minded to lead hateful me to his home? It is for this reason that you have now come here with guileful thought. Go, sit by his side, and abandon the way of the gods, and turn not your feet back to Olympus; but ever be anxious for him, and guard him, until he makes you his wife, or maybe even his slave. There I will not go—it would be shameful—to share that man's bed; all the women of Troy will blame me afterwards; and I have measureless griefs at heart."

Angered, fair Aphrodite spoke to her: "Provoke me not, hard woman, lest I desert you in anger, and hate you, just as now I love you exceedingly, and lest I devise grievous hatred of you from both sides, Trojans and Danaans alike; then would you perish of an evil fate."

So she spoke, and Helen, sprung from Zeus, was seized with fear; and she went, wrapping herself in her bright shining mantle, in silence; and she escaped the notice of the Trojan women; and the goddess led the way.

Now when they had come to the beautiful house of Alexander, the handmaids then turned quickly to their tasks, but she, the fair lady, went to the high-roofed chamber. And the goddess, laughter-loving Aphrodite, took a chair for her, and set it down facing Alexander. On it Helen sat down, the daughter of Zeus who bears the aegis, with eyes

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<sup>17</sup> ἀπόεικε κελεύθου Aristarchus: ἀπόειπε κελεύθους MSS.

<sup>18</sup> In place of lines 423–426 Zenodotus gave,  
 αὐτὴ δ' ἀντίον ἔζεν Ἀλεξάνδροιο ἄνακτος.

- ὅσσε πάλιν κλίνασα, πόσιν δ' ἠνίπαπε μύθῳ·  
 “ἦλυθες ἐκ πολέμον· ὥς ὄφελες αὐτόθ' ὀλέσθαι,  
 ἀνδρὶ δαμεῖς κρατερῷ, ὃς ἐμὸς πρότερος πόσις ἦεν.  
 430 ἦ μὲν δὴ πρὶν γ' εὖχε' ἀρηιφίλου Μενελάου  
 σῇ τε βίῃ καὶ χερσὶ καὶ ἔγχεϊ φέρτερος εἶναι.  
 ἀλλ' ἴθι νῦν προκάλεσσαι ἀρηιφίλον Μενέλαον<sup>19</sup>  
 ἐξαὐτὶς μαχέσασθαι ἐναντίον· ἀλλὰ σ' ἐγὼ γε  
 παύεσθαι κέλομαι, μηδὲ ξανθῷ Μενελάῳ  
 435 ἀντίβιον πόλεμον πολεμίζειν ἠδὲ μάχεσθαι  
 ἀφραδέως, μή πως τάχ' ὑπ' αὐτοῦ δουρὶ δαμήῃς.”

- Τὴν δὲ Πάρις μύθοισιν ἀμειβόμενος προσέειπε·  
 “μή με, γύναι, χαλεποῖσιν ὑνείδεσι θυμὸν ἔνιπτε.  
 νῦν μὲν γὰρ Μενέλαος ἐνίκησεν σὺν Ἀθήνῃ,  
 440 κεῖνον δ' αὖτις ἐγὼ· πάρα γὰρ θεοὶ εἰσι καὶ ἡμῖν.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ φιλότῃτι τραπέιομεν εὐνηθέντε·  
 οὐ γάρ πώ ποτέ μ' ᾧδέ γ' ἔρως φρένας ἀμφεκάλυψεν,  
 οὐδ' ὅτε σε πρῶτον Λακεδαίμονος ἐξ ἑρατεινῆς  
 ἔπλεον ἀρπάξας ἐν ποντοπόροισι νέεσσι,  
 445 νήσῳ δ' ἐν Κραναῇ ἐμίγην φιλότῃτι καὶ εὐνῇ,  
 ὥς σεο νῦν ἔραμαι καὶ με γλυκὺς ἥμερος αἰρεῖ.”

ᾧ ῥα, καὶ ἄρχε λέχοσδε κιών· ἅμα δ' εἶπετ'  
 ἄκοιτις.

- Τὼ μὲν ἄρ' ἐν τρητοῖσι κατεύνασθην λεχέεσσιν,  
 Ἀτρεΐδης δ' ἀν' ὄμιλον ἐφοῖτα θηρὶ ἐοικώς,  
 450 εἴ που ἐσαθρήσειεν Ἀλέξανδρον θεοειδέα.  
 ἀλλ' οὐ τις δύνατο Τρώων κλειτῶν τ' ἐπικούρων  
 δεῖξαι Ἀλέξανδρον τότ' ἀρηιφίλῳ Μενελάῳ.  
 οὐ μὲν γὰρ φιλότῃτι γ' ἐκεύθανον, εἴ τις ἴδοιτο·



### BOOK 3

turned away; and she scolded her husband, and said: "You have come back from the war; I wish you had died there, vanquished by a mighty man who was my former husband. Once indeed it was your boast that you were a better man than Menelaus, dear to Ares, in the might of your hands and with your spear. But now go, again challenge Menelaus, dear to Ares, to do battle with you, man to man. But as for me, I ask you to stop, and not war man to man against tawny-haired Menelaus, nor fight with him foolishly, lest soon you be vanquished by his spear."

Then Paris made answer, and spoke to her, saying: "Reproach not my heart, lady, with hard reviling words. For now has Menelaus vanquished me with Athene's aid, but another time will I vanquish him; on our side too there are gods. But come now, let us take our joy, bedded together in love; for never yet has desire so encompassed my mind—not even when I first snatched you from lovely Lacedaemon and sailed with you on my seafaring ships, and on the isle of Cranae slept with you on the bed of love—as now I love you, and sweet desire seizes me."

He spoke, and led the way to the bed, and with him followed his wife.

So the two lay down on the corded bed; but the son of Atreus ranged through the throng like a wild beast, hoping that somewhere he might catch sight of godlike Alexander. But no one of the Trojans or their famed allies could then point out Alexander to Menelaus, dear to Ares. Not for love, however, would they have hidden him, if anyone had

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<sup>19</sup> Lines 432–436 were rejected by Aristarchus.

- ἴσον γάρ σφιν πᾶσιν ἀπήχθετο κηρὶ μελαίνῃ.  
 455 τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 “κέκλυτέ μεν, Τρῶες καὶ Δάρδανοι ἡδ’ ἐπίκουροι·  
 νίκη μὲν δὴ φαίνεται ἀρηιφίλου Μενελάου,  
 ὑμεῖς δ’ Ἀργείην Ἑλένην καὶ κτήμαθ’ ἅμ’ αὐτῇ  
 ἔκδοτε, καὶ τιμὴν ἀποτινέμεν ἣν τιν’ ἔοικεν,  
 460 ἥ τε καὶ ἐσσομένοισι μετ’ ἀνθρώποισι πέληται.”  
 ὣς ἔφατ’ Ἀτρεΐδης, ἐπὶ δ’ ἦνεον ἄλλοι Ἀχαιοί.

### BOOK 3

seen him, for he was hated by all like black death. Then the lord of men, Agamemnon, spoke among them, saying: "Hear me, Trojans and Dardanians and allies. Victory is now clearly seen to rest with Menelaus, dear to Ares; give up Argive Helen and the treasure with her, and pay such recompense as is proper, such as will remain in the minds of men that are yet to be."

So spoke the son of Atreus, and all the Achaeans shouted assent.

Δ

- Οἱ δὲ θεοὶ παρ Ζηνὶ καθήμενοι ἡγορόωντο  
 χρυσέῳ ἐν δαπέδῳ, μετὰ δέ σφισι πότνια Ἥβη  
 νέκταρ ἐφνοχόει· τοὶ δὲ χρυσέοις δεπάεσσι  
 δειδέχατ' ἀλλήλους, Τρώων πόλιν εἰσορόωντες.
- 5 αὐτίκ' ἐπειράτο Κρονίδης ἐρεθιζέμεν Ἥρην  
 κερτομίοις ἐπέεσσι, παραβλήδην ἀγορεύων·  
 “δοιαὶ μὲν Μενελάῳ ἀρηγόνες εἰσὶ θεάων,  
 Ἥρη τ' Ἀργεῖη καὶ Ἀλαλκομενηὶς Ἀθήνη.  
 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι ταὶ νόσφι καθήμεναι εἰσορόώσαι
- 10 τέρπεσθον· τῷ δ' αὖτε φιλομμειδῆς Ἀφροδίτη  
 αἰεὶ παρμέμβλωκε καὶ αὐτοῦ κῆρας ἀμύνει·  
 καὶ νῦν ἐξεσάωσεν οἰόμενον θανέεσθαι.  
 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι νίκη μὲν ἀρηιφίλου Μενελάου·  
 ἡμεῖς δὲ φραζώμεθ' ὅπως ἔσται τάδε ἔργα,
- 15 ἢ ῥ' αὖτις πόλεμόν τε κακὸν καὶ φύλοπιν αἰνὴν  
 ὄρσομεν, ἢ φιλότητα μετ' ἀμφοτέροισι βάλωμεν.  
 εἰ δ' αὖ πως τόδε πᾶσι φίλον καὶ ἡδὺ γένοιτο,  
 ἦ τοι μὲν οἰκέοιτο πόλις Πριάμοιο ἄνακτος,  
 αὖτις δ' Ἀργεῖην Ἑλένην Μενέλαος ἄγοιτο.”
- 20 Ὡς ἔφαθ', αἱ δ' ἐπέμυξαν Ἀθηναίῃ τε καὶ Ἥρῃ·  
 πλησῖαι αἶ γ' ἦσθην, κακὰ δὲ Τρώεσσι μεδέσθην.

## BOOK 4

Now the gods, seated by the side of Zeus, were holding assembly on the golden floor, and among them the queenly Hebe poured them nectar, and they with golden goblets pledged each other as they looked out on the city of the Trojans. And immediately the son of Cronos attempted to provoke Hera with mocking words, and said with malice: "Two of the goddesses has Menelaus for helpers, Argive Hera and Alalcomenean Athene. But while they sit apart and take pleasure in looking only, by that other one laughter-loving Aphrodite is always standing, and wards off the fates from him, and just now she has saved him, when he thought he would die. But surely victory rests with Menelaus, dear to Ares; let us therefore take thought how these things are to be; whether we shall again rouse evil war and the dread din of battle, or place friendship between the armies. If this should in any way be welcome and sweet to all, then might the city of king Priam still be inhabited, and Menelaus might take back Argive Helen."

So he spoke, and Athene and Hera muttered against him as they sat side by side and planned ills for the Trojans.

- ἦ τοι Ἀθηναίη ἀκέων ἦν οὐδέ τι εἶπε,  
 σκυζομένη Δὺ πατρί, χόλος δέ μιν ἄγριος ἦρει·  
 Ἕρῃ δ' οὐκ ἔχαδε στῆθος χόλον, ἀλλὰ προσηύδα·
- 25 “αἰνότατε Κρονίδη, ποῖον τὸν μῦθον ἔειπες·  
 πῶς ἐθέλεις ἄλιον θεῖναι πόνον ἢδ' ἀτέλεστον,  
 ἰδρῶ θ' ὃν ἰδρωσα μόγῳ, καμέτην δέ μοι ἵπποι  
 λαὸν ἀγειρούσῃ, Πριάμῳ κακὰ τοιό τε παισίν.  
 ἔρδ'· ἀτὰρ οὐ τοι πάντες ἐπαινέομεν θεοὶ ἄλλοι.”
- 30 Τὴν δὲ μέγ' ὀχθήσας προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς·  
 “δαιμονίη, τί νύ σε Πρίαμος Πριάμοιό τε παῖδες  
 τόσσα κακὰ ρέζουσιν, ὃ τ' ἀσπερχὲς μενεαίνεις  
 Ἰλίου ἐξαλαπάξαι ἐνκτίμενον πτολίεθρον;  
 εἰ δὲ σύ γ' εἰσελθοῦσα πύλας καὶ τείχεα μακρὰ
- 35 ὦμόν βεβρώθοις Πρίαμον Πριάμοιό τε παῖδας  
 ἄλλους τε Τρῶας, τότε κεν χόλον ἐξακέσαιο.  
 ἔρξον ὅπως ἐθέλεις· μὴ τοῦτό γε νεῖκος ὀπίσσω  
 σοὶ καὶ ἐμοὶ μέγ' ἔρισμα μετ' ἀμφοτέροισι γένηται.  
 ἄλλο δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσιν·
- 40 ὅπποτε κεν καὶ ἐγὼ μεμαῶς πόλιν ἐξαλαπάξαι  
 τὴν ἐθέλω ὅθι τοι φίλοι ἀνέρες ἐγγεγάασι,  
 μή τι διατρίβειν τὸν ἐμὸν χόλον, ἀλλὰ μ' ἐᾶσαι·  
 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ σοὶ δῶκα ἐκὼν ἀέκοντί γε θυμῷ.  
 αἱ γὰρ ὑπ' ἡελίῳ τε καὶ οὐρανῷ ἀστερόεντι
- 45 ναιετάουσι πόλῃες ἐπιχθονίων ἀνθρώπων,  
 τῶν μοι περὶ κῆρι τιέσκετο Ἴλιος ἱρή  
 καὶ Πρίαμος καὶ λαὸς ἐνμμελίῳ Πριάμοιο.  
 οὐ γάρ μοί ποτε βωμὸς ἐδεύετο δαιτὸς εἴσης,  
 λοιβῆς τε κνίσῃς τε· τὸ γὰρ λάχομεν γέρας ἡμεῖς.”

## BOOK 4

Athene to be sure held her peace and said nothing, furious though she was at father Zeus, and fierce anger had taken hold of her; but Hera's breast contained not her anger, but she spoke to him, saying: "Most dread son of Cronos, what a word you have said! How can you be minded to make my labor vain and of no effect, and the sweat that I sweated in my toil—and my two horses grew weary with my summoning the army as an evil for Priam and his sons? Do it; but be sure we other gods do not all assent to it."

Then in great agitation spoke to her Zeus, the cloud-gatherer: "Strange queen, in what way do Priam and the sons of Priam work you so many ills that you rage incessantly to lay waste the well-built citadel of Ilios? If you were to enter inside the gates and the high walls and to devour Priam raw and the sons of Priam and all the Trojans besides, then perhaps you might heal your anger. Do as you wish; let not this quarrel in future be to you and me a great cause of strife between us. And another thing will I tell you, and do you lay it to heart. Whenever I, eager to lay waste a city myself, choose one in which live men that are dear to you, do not seek in any way to hinder my anger, but let me be, since I have yielded to you of my own will, yet with heart unwilling. For of all cities beneath sun and starry heaven in which men reared on the earth have their abodes, of these sacred Ilios was most honored in my heart, and Priam, and the people of Priam of the good ashen spear. For never at any time was my altar lacking in the equal banquet, the drink offering, and the savor of burnt offering, for that is the privilege we gods have received."

- 50 Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα βοῶπις πότνια Ἥρη·  
 “ἦ τοι ἐμοὶ τρεῖς μὲν πολὺ φίλταταί εἰσι πόλῃες,  
 Ἄργος τε Σπάρτη τε καὶ εὐρυνάγυια Μυκῆνη·  
 τὰς διαπέρσαι, ὅτ' ἂν τοι ἀπέχθωνται περὶ κῆρι  
 τάων οὗ τοι ἐγὼ πρόσθ' ἵσταμαι οὐδὲ μεγαίρω.
- 55 εἴ περ γὰρ φθονέω τε καὶ οὐκ εἰῶ διαπέρσαι,<sup>1</sup>  
 οὐκ ἀνύω φθονέουσ', ἐπεὶ ἦ πολὺ φέρτερός ἐσσι.  
 ἀλλὰ χρὴ καὶ ἐμὸν θέμεναι πόνον οὐκ ἀτέλεστον·  
 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ θεός εἰμι, γένος δέ μοι ἔνθεν ὅθεν σοί,  
 καί με πρεσβυτάτην τέκετο Κρόνος ἀγκυλομήτης,
- 60 ἀμφότερον, γενεῇ τε καὶ οὐνεκα σὴ παράκοιτις  
 κέκλημαι, σὺ δὲ πᾶσι μετ' ἀθανάτοισιν ἀνάσσεις.  
 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι μὲν ταῦθ' ὑποείξομεν ἀλλήλοισι,  
 σοὶ μὲν ἐγώ, σὺ δ' ἐμοί· ἐπὶ δ' ἔψονται θεοὶ ἄλλοι  
 ἀθάνατοι· σὺ δὲ θᾶσσον Ἀθηναίῃ ἐπιτεῖλαι
- 65 ἐλθεῖν ἐς Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν φύλοπιν αἰνῆν,  
 πειρᾶν δ' ὥς κε Τρῶες ὑπερκύδαντας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 ἄρξωσι πρότεροι ὑπὲρ ὄρκια δηλήσασθαι.”
- “Ὡς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθῃσε πατὴρ ἀνδρῶν τε θεῶν τε·  
 αὐτίκ' Ἀθηναίην ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·
- 70 “αἶψα μάλ' ἐς στρατὸν ἐλθὲ μετὰ Τρῶας καὶ Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 πειρᾶν δ' ὥς κε Τρῶες ὑπερκύδαντας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 ἄρξωσι πρότεροι ὑπὲρ ὄρκια δηλήσασθαι.”
- “Ὡς εἰπὼν ὄτρυνε πάρος μεμαυῖαν Ἀθήνην,  
 βῆ δὲ κατ' Οὐλύμποιο καρήνων αἶξασα.
- 75 οἶον δ' ἀστέρα ἦκε Κρόνου παῖς ἀγκυλομήτεω,  
 ἣ ναύτησι τέρας ἦε στρατῷ εὐρέι λαῶν,  
 λαμπρόν· τοῦ δέ τε πολλοὶ ἀπὸ σπινθήρες ἵενται·



## BOOK 4

In answer to him spoke ox-eyed, queenly Hera: "I have three cities that are far dearest in my sight, Argos and Sparta and broad-wayed Mycenae; lay these waste whenever they are hateful to your heart. Not in their defence do I stand before them, nor grudge you in any way. For even though I object, and try to prevent you from destroying them, I accomplish nothing by objecting, for truly you are far the mightier. Still my labor too must not be made of no effect; for I also am a god, and my birth is from the same stock as yours, and crooked-counseling Cronos begot me as the most honored of his daughters, doubly so, since I am eldest and am called your wife, while you are king among all the immortals. But let us yield to each other in this, I to you and you to me, and all the other immortal gods will follow with us; and do you quickly charge Athene to go into the dread din of battle of Trojans and Achaeans, and try to arrange it that the Trojans are first in defiance of their oaths to work evil on the triumphant Achaeans."

So she spoke, and the father of men and gods failed not to obey; immediately he spoke to Athene winged words: "Go with all speed into the armies of the Trojans and Achaeans, and try to arrange it that the Trojans are first in defiance of their oaths to work evil on the triumphant Achaeans."

So saying, he stirred on Athene, who was already eager, and down from the peaks of Olympus she darted. Just as the son of crooked-counseling Cronos sends a star to be a portent for seamen or for a wide army of warriors, a gleaming star, and from it the sparks fly thick; so darted Pallas

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<sup>1</sup> Lines 55 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

- τῷ ἔικυι ἤϊξεν ἐπὶ χθόνα Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη,  
 καδ δ' ἔθορ' ἐς μέσσον· θάμβος δ' ἔχεν εἰσορόωντας,  
 80 Τρώας θ' ἵπποδάμους καὶ ἐνκνήμιδας Ἀχαιούς·  
 ὦδε δέ τις εἶπεςκεν ἰδὼν ἐς πλησίον ἄλλον·  
 “ἦ ῥ' αὖτις πόλεμός τε κακὸς καὶ φύλοπις αἰνὴ  
 ἔσσεται, ἣ φιλότητα μετ' ἀμφοτέροισι τίθησι  
 Ζεύς, ὅς τ' ἀνθρώπων ταμίης πολέμοιο τέτυκται.”  
 85 Ὡς ἄρα τις εἶπεςκεν Ἀχαιῶν τε Τρώων τε.  
 ἣ δ' ἀνδρὶ ἱκέλη Τρώων κατεδύσεθ' ὅμιλον,  
 Λαοδόκῳ Ἀντηνορίδῃ, κρατερῷ αἰχμητῇ,  
 Πάνδαρον ἀντίθεον διζημένη, εἴ πον ἐφεύροι.<sup>2</sup>  
 εὔρε Λυκάονος νιδὸν ἀμύμονά τε κρατερόν τε  
 90 ἑσταότ'· ἀμφὶ δέ μιν κρατερὰι στίχες ἀσπιστάων  
 λαῶν, οἳ οἱ ἔποντο ἀπ' Αἰσήποιο ῥοαῶν.  
 ἀγχοῦ δ' ἰσταμένη ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “ἦ ῥά νύ μοί τι πίθοιο, Λυκάονος νιὲ δαΐφρον;  
 τλαίης κεν Μενελάῳ ἐπιπροέμεν ταχὺν ἰόν,  
 95 πᾶσι δέ κε Τρώεσσι χάριν καὶ κῦδος ἄροιο,  
 ἐκ πάντων δέ μάλιστα Ἀλεξάνδρῳ βασιλῇ.  
 τοῦ κεν δὴ πάμπρωτα παρ' ἀγλαὰ δῶρα φέροιο,  
 αἷ κεν ἴδῃ Μενέλαον ἀρήιον Ἀτρέος νιδὸν  
 σῶ βέλεϊ δμηθέντα πυρῆς ἐπιβάντ' ἀλεγεινῆς.  
 100 ἀλλ' ἄγ' οἷστευσον Μενελάου κυδαλίμοιο,  
 εὔχεο δ' Ἀπόλλωνι Λυκηγενεὶ κλυτοτόξῳ  
 ἀρνῶν πρωτογόνων ῥέξειν κλειτὴν ἑκατόμβην  
 οἴκαδε νοστήσας ἱερῆς εἰς ἄστνυ Ζελεΐης.”  
 Ὡς φάτ' Ἀθηναίη, τῷ δὲ φρένας ἄφροني πείθην.  
 105 αὐτίκ' ἐσύλα τόξον εὖξοον ἰξάλου αἰγὸς

Athene to earth, and down she leapt into their midst; and amazement came on all who saw her, on horse-taming Trojans and well-greaved Achaeans; and a man would turn to his neighbor and say: "We shall certainly again have evil war and the dread din of battle, or else friendship has been placed between both armies by Zeus, who is for men the dispenser of battle."

So would many a man of the Achaeans and Trojans say. But Athene entered the throng of the Trojans in the guise of a man, Laodocus, son of Antenor, a mighty spearman, as she sought out godlike Pandarus, hoping to find him somewhere. She found the son of Lycaon, incomparable and mighty, standing there, and around him were the mighty ranks of the shield-bearing soldiers that followed him from the streams of Aesepus. Then she came up, and spoke to him winged words: "Will you now listen to me, battle-minded son of Lycaon? Then you would dare let fly a swift arrow at Menelaus, and would win favor and renown in the eyes of all the Trojans, and of king Alexander most of all. From him you would surely before all others carry off glorious gifts, if he should see Menelaus, the warlike son of Atreus, laid low by your arrow and set on the grievous pyre. But come, shoot your arrow at glorious Menelaus, and vow to Apollo, the wolf-born god, famed for his bow, that you will sacrifice a glorious hecatomb of firstling lambs when you come to your home, the city of sacred Zeleia."

So spoke Athene, and persuaded his heart in his folly. Immediately he uncovered his polished bow of the horn of

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<sup>2</sup> εἴ ποιν ἐφεύροι: εἶπε δὲ τόνδε Zenodotus, who omitted 89.

ἀγρίου, ὃν ῥά ποτ' αὐτὸς ὑπὸ στέρνοιο τυχῆσας  
 πέτρης ἐκβαίνοντα δεδεγμένος ἐν προδοκῇσι  
 βεβλήκει πρὸς στήθος· ὁ δ' ὕπτιος ἔμπεσε πέτρη.  
 τοῦ κέρα ἐκ κεφαλῆς ἐκκαϊδεκάδωρα πεφύκει·

110 καὶ τὰ μὲν ἀσκήσας κεραοξόος ἤραρε τέκτων,  
 πᾶν δ' εὖ λειήνας χρυσέην ἐπέθηκε κορώνην.  
 καὶ τὸ μὲν εὖ κατέθηκε τανυσσάμενος ποτὶ γαίῃ  
 ἀγκλίνας· πρόσθεν δὲ σάκεα σχέθον ἐσθλοὶ ἐταῖροι,  
 μὴ πρὶν ἀναΐξιαν ἀρήιοι νῆες Ἀχαιῶν,

115 πρὶν βλῆσθαι Μενέλαον ἀρήιον Ἀτρείος υἱόν.<sup>3</sup>  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ σύλα πῶμα φαρέτρης, ἐκ δ' ἔλετ' ἰὸν  
 ἀβλήτα πτερόεντα, μελαινέων ἔρμ' ὀδυνάων.<sup>4</sup>  
 αἶψα δ' ἐπὶ νευρῇ κατεκόσμει πικρὸν ὀιστόν,  
 εὔχετο δ' Ἀπόλλωνι Λυκηγενεὶ κλυτοτόξῳ

120 ἀρνῶν πρωτογόνων ῥέξειν κλειτὴν ἐκατόμβην  
 οἴκαδε νοστήσας ἱερῆς εἰς ἄστνυ Ζελείης.  
 ἔλκε δ' ὁμοῦ γλυφίδας τε λαβὼν καὶ νεῦρα βόεια·  
 νευρὴν μὲν μαζῶ πέλασεν, τόξῳ δὲ σίδηρον.<sup>5</sup>  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ κυκλοτερὲς μέγα τόξον ἔτεινε,  
 125 λίγξε βιός, νευρὴ δὲ μέγ' ἴαχεν, ἄλτο δ' ὀιστὸς  
 ὀξυβελῆς, καθ' ὅμιλον ἐπιπτέσθαι μενεαίνων.

Οὐδὲ σέθεν, Μενέλαε, θεοὶ μάκαρες λελάθοντο  
 ἀθάνατοι, πρώτη δὲ Διὸς θυγάτηρ ἀγελείη,  
 ἥ τοι πρόσθε σταῖσα βέλος ἐχεπευκὲς ἄμυνεν.

130 ἥ δὲ τόσον μὲν ἔργεν ἀπὸ χροός, ὥς ὅτε μήτηρ  
 παιδὸς ἐέργη μύϊαν, ὅθ' ἡδέι λέξεται ὕπνῳ,

<sup>3</sup> Ἀτρείος υἱόν: ἀρχὸν Ἀχαιῶν (cf. 195 and 205).

## BOOK 4

a wild ibex, that he himself once, lying in wait in a place of ambush, had shot beneath the breast as it came out from a rock, and had struck it in the chest, so that it fell backward in a cleft of the rock. From its head the horns grew to a length of sixteen palms; these the worker in horn had worked and fitted together, and smoothed the whole with care, and set on it a tip of gold. This bow he set firmly against the ground, bent it, and strung it; and his noble comrades held their shields in front of him, lest the warrior sons of the Achaeans should leap to their feet before Menelaus, the warlike son of Atreus, was hit. Then he opened the lid of his quiver, and took out an arrow, a feathered arrow that had never been shot, loaded with dark pains; and immediately he fitted the bitter arrow to the string, and made a vow to Apollo, the wolf-born god, famed for his bow, that he would sacrifice a glorious hecatomb of firstling lambs, when he came to his home, the city of sacred Zeleia. And he drew the bow, clutching at once the notched arrow and the string of ox's sinew: the string he brought to his chest and to the bow the iron arrowhead. But when he had drawn the great bow into a curve, the bow twanged and the string sang aloud, and the sharp arrow leapt, eager to wing its way through the throng.

Then, Menelaus, the blessed gods, the immortals, forgot you not, and first among them the daughter of Zeus, she who drives the spoil; she stood in front of you, and warded off the stinging arrow. She swept it just aside from the flesh, as a mother sweeps a fly from her child when

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<sup>4</sup> Line 117 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>5</sup> Lines 123 f. were given by Zenodotus in inverse order.

- αὐτὴ δ' αὖτ' ἵθυνεν ὅθι ζωστήρος ὀχῆες  
 χρύσειοι σύνεχον καὶ διπλόον ἦντετο θώρηξ.  
 ἐν δ' ἔπεσε ζωστήρι ἀρηρότι πικρὸς οἰστός·
- 135 διὰ μὲν ἄρ' ζωστήρος ἐλήλατο δαιδαλέοιο,  
 καὶ διὰ θώρηκος πολυδαιδάλου ἡρήριστο  
 μίτρης θ', ἣν ἐφόρει ἔρυμα<sup>6</sup> χροός, ἔρκος ἀκόντων,  
 ἣ οἱ πλείστον ἔρυτο· διαπρὸ δὲ εἷσατο καὶ τῆς.  
 ἀκρότατον δ' ἄρ' οἰστός ἐπέγραψε χροά φωτός·
- 140 αὐτίκα δ' ἔρρεεν αἶμα κελαινεφές ἐξ ὠτειλῆς.<sup>7</sup>  
 Ὡς δ' ὅτε τίς τ' ἐλέφαντα γυνὴ φοίνικι μῆνην  
 Μηοῖς ἢ Κάειρα, παρήιον ἔμμεναι ἵππων·  
 κεῖται δ' ἐν θαλάμῳ, πολέες τέ μιν ἡρήσαντο  
 ἱππῆες φορέειν· βασιλῆϊ δὲ κεῖται ἄγαλμα,
- 145 ἀμφότερον κόσμος θ' ἵππῳ ἐλατῆρί τε κῦδος·  
 τοιοῖ τοι, Μενέλαε, μιάνθην αἵματι μηροὶ  
 εὐφυέες κνημαῖ τε ἰδὲ σφυρὰ κάλ' ὑπένερθε.
- Ῥίγησεν δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 ὥς εἶδεν μέλαν αἶμα καταρρέον ἐξ ὠτειλῆς.<sup>8</sup>
- 150 ῥίγησεν δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς ἀρηίφίλος Μενέλαος.  
 ὥς δὲ ἶδεν νεῦρόν τε καὶ ὄγκους ἐκτὸς ἑόντας,  
 ἄψορρόν οἱ θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ἀγέρθη.  
 τοῖς δὲ βαρὺ στενάχων μετέφη κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 χειρὸς ἔχων Μενέλαον, ἐπεστενάχοντο δ' ἑταῖροι·
- 155 “φίλε κασίγνητε, θάνατόν νύ τοι ὄρκι' ἔταμνον,

<sup>6</sup> ἔρυμα: ἔλυμα Zenodotus, Aristophanes.

<sup>7</sup> Line 140 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>8</sup> Line 149 was rejected by Aristarchus.

he lies in sweet slumber; and she guided it to where the golden clasps of the belt were fastened and the double corselet overlapped. Into the clasped belt entered the bitter arrow, and through the elaborate belt was it driven, and clean through the curiously worked corselet did it force its way, and through the apron<sup>1</sup> which he wore, a screen for his flesh and a barrier against missiles, which was his chief defence; yet even through this did it speed. So the arrow grazed the outermost flesh of the warrior, and immediately dark blood flowed from the wound.

As when a woman stains ivory with scarlet, some woman of Maeonia or Caria, to make a cheekpiece for horses, and it lies in a treasure chamber, though many horsemen pray to wear it; but it lies there as a king's delight, doubly so, as an ornament for his horse and to its driver a glory; even so, Menelaus, were your thighs stained with blood, your shapely thighs and your legs and your fair ankles beneath.

Then shuddered the lord of men, Agamemnon, as he saw the dark blood flowing from the wound, and Menelaus, dear to Ares, himself likewise shuddered. But when he saw that the sinew<sup>2</sup> and the barbs were outside the flesh, back again into his breast was his heart gathered. But groaning heavily spoke among them lord Agamemnon, holding Menelaus by the hand, and his comrades too made moan: "Dear brother, it was for your death, it appears, that

<sup>1</sup> The *μίτρη* appears to have been a short kilt-like piece of armor, covering the abdomen and the thighs. M.

<sup>2</sup> By which the arrowhead was fastened to the shaft. M.

- οἶον προστήσας πρὸ Ἀχαιῶν Τρωσὶ μάχεσθαι,  
ὥς σ' ἔβαλον Τρῶες, κατὰ δ' ὄρκια πιστὰ πάτησαν.  
οὐ μὲν πῶς ἄλιον πέλει ὄρκιον αἶμά τε ἄρνῶν  
σπονδαί τ' ἄκρητοι καὶ δεξιαί, ἧς ἐπέπιθμεν.  
160 εἴ περ γάρ τε καὶ αὐτίκ' Ὀλύμπιος οὐκ ἐτέλεσεν,  
ἔκ τε καὶ ὁψὲ τελεῖ, σὺν τε μεγάλῳ ἀπέτισαν,  
σὺν σφῆσιν κεφαλῇσι γυναιξί τε καὶ τεκέεσσιν.  
εὖ γὰρ ἐγὼ τόδε οἶδα κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμόν·  
ἔσσεται ἡμᾶρ ὅτ' ἂν ποτ' ὀλώλῃ Ἴλιος ἱρὴ  
165 καὶ Πριάμος καὶ λαὸς ἐνμμελίῳ Πριάμοιο,  
Ζεὺς δέ σφι Κρονίδης ὑψίζυγος, αἰθέρι ναίων,  
αὐτὸς ἐπισσείησιν ἐρεμνὴν αἰγίδα πᾶσι  
τῆσδ' ἀπάτης κοτέων· τὰ μὲν ἔσσεται οὐκ ἀτέλεστα·  
ἀλλὰ μοι αἶνὸν ἄχος σέθεν ἔσσεται, ὦ Μενέλαε,  
170 αἶ κε θάνῃς καὶ πότμον<sup>9</sup> ἀναπλήσῃς βιότοιο.  
καὶ κεν ἐλέγχιστος πολυδύσιον Ἄργος ἰκοίμην·  
αὐτίκα γὰρ μνήσονται Ἀχαιοὶ πατρίδος αἷης·  
καδ δέ κεν εὐχολὴν Πριάμῳ καὶ Τρωσὶ λίποιμεν  
Ἄργεϊν Ἑλένην· σέο δ' ὅστέα πύσει ἄρουρα  
175 κειμένου ἐν Τροίῃ ἀτελευτήτῳ ἐπὶ ἔργῳ·  
καὶ κέ τις ὦδ' ἐρέει Τρώων ὑπερηνορέοντων  
τύμβῳ ἐπιθρόσκων Μενελάου κυδαλίμοιο·  
'αἶθ' οὕτως ἐπὶ πᾶσι χόλον τελέσει' Ἀγαμέμνων,  
ὥς καὶ νῦν ἄλιον στρατὸν ἤγαγεν ἐνθάδ' Ἀχαιῶν,  
180 καὶ δὴ ἔβη οἰκόνδε φίλῃν ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν  
σὺν κεινῇσιν νηυσί, λιπὼν ἀγαθὸν Μενέλαον·  
ὥς ποτέ τις ἐρέει τότε μοι χάνοι εὐρεῖα χθών·”



## BOOK 4

I swore this solemn oath, stationing you alone before the Achaeans to do battle with the Trojans, since the Trojans have thus struck you, and trodden under foot the oaths of faith. Yet in no way is an oath of no effect and the blood of lambs and drink offerings of unmixed wine and the hand-clasps in which we put our trust. For even if the Olympian does not immediately fulfill them, yet late and at length he will fulfill them, and with a heavy price do men make atonement, with their own heads and their wives and their children. For I know this well in my mind and heart: the day will come when sacred Ilios will be laid low, and Priam, and the people of Priam of the good ashen spear; and Zeus, son of Cronos, throned on high, who dwells in the sky, will himself shake over them all his dark aegis in anger for this deceit. These things will not fail of fulfillment; yet dreadful grief for you will be mine, Menelaus, if you die and fill up the measure of your fate. And as one most despised should I return to thirsty Argos, for immediately will the Achaeans take thought of their native land, and so should we leave Argive Helen as a boast to Priam and the Trojans. And your bones will the earth rot as you lie in the land of Troy with your task unfinished; and so will one of the arrogant Trojans say, as he leaps on the mound of glorious Menelaus: 'I wish that in every undertaking it may be thus that Agamemnon fulfills his wrath, just as now he has led here an army of the Achaeans in vain, and indeed he has gone away home to his dear native land with empty ships, and has left here noble Menelaus.' So will some man speak one day; on that day let the wide earth gape open for me."

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<sup>9</sup> *πότμον* Aristarchus: *μοῖραν* MSS.

Τὸν δ' ἐπιθαρσύνων προσέφη ξανθὸς Μενέλαος·  
 “θάρσει, μηδέ τί πω δειδίσσαιο λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν·  
 185 οὐκ ἐν καιρίῳ ὃς πᾶγῃ βέλος, ἀλλὰ πάροιθεν  
 εἰρύσατο ζωστήρ τε παναίολος ἥδ' ὑπένερθε  
 ζῶμά τε καὶ μήτρη, τὴν χαλκῆες κάμον ἄνδρες.”

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη κρείων Ἀγα-  
 μέμνων·  
 “αἶ γὰρ δὴ οὕτως εἶη, φίλος ὦ Μενέλαε·  
 190 ἔλκος δ' ἰητὴρ ἐπιμάσσεται ἥδ' ἐπιθήσει  
 φάρμαχ', ἃ κεν παύσῃσι μελαινάων ὀδυνάων.”

Ἦ, καὶ Ταλθύβιον, θεῖον κήρυκα, προσηύδα·  
 “Ταλθύβι, ὅττι τάχιστα Μαχάονα δεῦρο κάλεσσον,  
 φῶτ' Ἀσκληπιοῦ υἱόν, ἀμύμονος ἰητῆρος,  
 195 ὅφρα ἴδῃ Μενέλαον ἀρήιον Ἀτρείος υἱόν,<sup>10</sup>  
 ὃν τις οἰστεύσας ἔβαλεν, τόξων ἐν εἰδώς,  
 Τρώων ἢ Λυκίων, τῷ μὲν κλέος, ἅμμι δὲ πένθος.”

ᾧς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἄρα οἱ κῆρυξ ἀπίθησεν ἀκούσας,  
 βῆ δ' ἰέναι κατὰ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων  
 200 παπταίνων ἥρῳα Μαχάονα· τὸν δ' ἐνόησεν  
 ἔσταότ'· ἀμφὶ δέ μιν κρατεραὶ στίχες ἀσπιστῶν  
 λαῶν, οἳ οἳ ἔποντο Τρίκης ἐξ ἵπποβότοιο.  
 ἀγχοῦ δ' ἰστάμενος ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “ὄρσ', Ἀσκληπιάδη, καλέει κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 205 ὅφρα ἴδῃς Μενέλαον ἀρήιον ἀρχὸν Ἀχαιῶν,<sup>11</sup>  
 ὃν τις οἰστεύσας ἔβαλεν, τόξων ἐν εἰδώς,  
 Τρώων ἢ Λυκίων, τῷ μὲν κλέος, ἅμμι δὲ πένθος.”

ᾧς φάτο, τῷ δ' ἄρα θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ὄρινε·

## BOOK 4

But tawny-haired Menelaus spoke and encouraged him, saying: "Take heart, and do not frighten the army of the Achaeans. Not in a fatal spot has the pointed shaft been fixed; before that my flashing belt stayed it, and the kilt beneath, and the apron that the coppersmiths fashioned."

In answer to him spoke lord Agamemnon: "I hope it may be so, dear Menelaus. But the healer will examine the wound and lay on it herbs that will make you cease from dark pains."

And he spoke to Talthybius, the godlike herald: "Talthybius, as quickly as you can call here Machaon, son of Asclepius, the incomparable healer, to see warlike Menelaus, son of Atreus, whom some man well skilled in archery has struck with an arrow, some Trojan or Lycian, for himself glory, but for us sorrow."

So he spoke, and the herald failed not to obey when he heard, but set out to go through the army of the bronze-clad Achaeans, seeking the warrior Machaon; and he caught sight of him standing there, and around him were the mighty ranks of the shield-bearing men who followed him from Trica, the pastureland of horses. And he came up to him, and spoke winged words, saying: "Up, son of Asclepius; lord Agamemnon calls you to see warlike Menelaus, leader of the Achaeans, whom some man well skilled in archery has struck with an arrow, some Trojan or Lycian, for himself glory, but for us sorrow."

So he spoke, and roused the heart in his breast, and

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<sup>10</sup> Lines 195–197 (cf. 205–207) were rejected by Aristarchus. Ἀτρεὺς υἱόν: ἀρχὸν Ἀχαιῶν (cf. 115 and 205).

<sup>11</sup> ἀρχὸν Ἀχαιῶν: Ἀτρεὺς υἱόν (cf. 115 and 195).

- βὰν δ' ἰέναι καθ' ὄμιλον ἀνὰ στρατὸν εὐρὺν Ἀχαιῶν.  
 210 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἵκανον ὅθι ξανθὸς Μενέλαος  
 βλήμενος ἦν, περὶ δ' αὐτὸν ἀγηγέραθ' ὅσσοι ἄριστοι  
 κυκλός', ὁ δ' ἐν μέσσοισι παρίστατο ἰσόθεος φῶς,  
 αὐτίκα δ' ἐκ ζωστήηρος ἀρηρότος ἔλκεν οἰστόν·  
 τοῦ δ' ἐξελκομένοιο πάλιν ἄγεν ὀξέες ὄγκοι.  
 215 λῦσε δέ οἱ ζωστήηρα παναίολον ἠδ' ὑπένερθε  
 ζῶμά τε καὶ μίτρην, τὴν χαλκῆες κάμον ἄνδρες.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ἶδεν ἔλκος, ὅθ' ἔμπεσε πικρὸς οἰστός,  
 αἶμ' ἐκμυζήσας ἐπ' ἄρ' ἥπια φάρμακα εἰδὼς  
 πάσσε, τά οἱ ποτε πατρὶ φίλα φρονέων πόρε Χείρων.  
 220 Ὅφρα τοὶ ἀμφεπένοντο βοῇν ἀγαθὸν Μενέλαον  
 τόφρα δ' ἐπὶ Τρώων στίχες ἤλυθον ἀσπιστάων·  
 οἱ δ' αὖτις κατὰ τεύχε' ἔδυν, μνήσαντο δὲ χάρμης.  
 Ἔνθ' οὐκ ἂν βρίζοντα ἴδοις Ἀγαμέμνονα δῖον,  
 οὐδὲ καταπτώσσοντ', οὐδ' οὐκ ἐθέλοντα μάχεσθαι,  
 225 ἀλλὰ μάλα σπεύδοντα μάχην ἐς κυδιάνειραν.  
 ἵππους μὲν γὰρ ἔασε καὶ ἄρματα ποικίλα χαλκῷ.  
 καὶ τοὺς μὲν θεράπων ἀπάνευθ' ἔχε φυσιόωντας  
 Εὐρυμέδων, υἱὸς Πτολεμαίου Πειραΐδαο·  
 τῷ μάλα πόλλ' ἐπέτελλε παρισχέμεν, ὅπποτε κέν μιν  
 230 γυῖα λάβῃ κάματος, πολέας διὰ κοιρανέοντα·  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ πεζὸς ἐὼν ἐπεπωλείτο στίχας ἀνδρῶν.  
 καὶ ῥ' οὓς μὲν σπεύδοντας ἴδοι Δαναῶν ταχυπῶλων,  
 τοὺς μάλα θαρσύνεσκε παριστάμενος ἐπέεσσιν·  
 "Ἀργεῖοι, μή πώ τι μεθίετε θούριδος ἀλκῆς·  
 235 οὐ γὰρ ἐπὶ ψεύδεσσι πατήρ Ζεὺς ἔσσειτ' ἀρωγός·  
 ἀλλ' οἱ περ πρότεροι ὑπὲρ ὄρκια δηλήσαντο,

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they set out to go in the throng through the broad army of the Achaeans. And when they had come where tawny-haired Menelaus lay wounded, and around him were gathered in a circle all they who were chief men, the godlike man came and stood in their midst, and immediately drew out the arrow from the clasped belt; and as it was drawn out the sharp barbs were broken backwards. And he loosed the flashing belt and the kilt beneath and the apron that the coppersmiths had fashioned. But when he saw the wound where the bitter arrow had entered, he sucked out the blood, and with sure knowledge spread on it soothing herbs, which once Cheiron had given to his father with kindly intent.

While they were thus busied with Menelaus, good at the war cry, meanwhile the ranks of the shield-bearing Trojans came on; and the Achaeans again put on their battle gear, and took thought of war.

Then you would not have seen noble Agamemnon sluggish, or cowering, or not minded to fight, but very eager for battle where men win glory. His horses and his chariot inlaid with bronze he left behind, and his attendant, Eurymedon, son of Peiraeus' son Ptolemaeus, kept back the snorting steeds; and Agamemnon gave him strict charge to have them at hand whenever weariness should come on his limbs as he gave commands throughout the army; but he himself ranged on foot through the ranks of warriors. And whomever of the Danaans with swift steeds he saw eager, these he would approach, and encourage them earnestly, saying: "Argives, do not relax your furious valor; for father Zeus will be no helper of lies; but they who were the first to work violence in defiance of their oaths,

τῶν ἧ τοι αὐτῶν τέρενα χροά γῦπες ἔδονται,  
 ἡμεῖς αὖτ' ἀλόχους τε φίλας καὶ νήπια τέκνα  
 ἄξομεν ἐν νήεσσιν, ἐπὴν πτολίεθρον ἔλωμεν."

- 240 Οὓς τινας αὖ μεθιέντας ἴδοι στυγεροῦ πολέμοιο,  
 τοὺς μάλα νεικεῖσκε χολωτοῖσιν ἐπέεσσιν·  
 "Ἀργεῖοι ἰόμωροι, ἐλεγχείες, οὗ νυ σέβεσθε;  
 τίφθ' οὕτως ἔστητε τεθηπότες ἢ τε νεβροί,  
 αἶ τ' ἐπεὶ οὖν ἔκαμον πολέος πεδίοιο θέουσai,  
 245 ἐστᾶσ', οὐδ' ἄρα τίς σφι μετὰ φρεσὶ γίγνεται ἀλκή·  
 ὥς ὑμεῖς ἔστητε τεθηπότες, οὐδὲ μάχεσθε.  
 ἧ μένετε Τρῶας σχεδὸν ἐλθέμεν, ἔνθα τε νῆες  
 εἰρύατ' εὐπρυμνοὶ, πολιῆς ἐπὶ θινὶ θαλάσσης,  
 ὄφρα ἴδῃτ' αἶ κ' ὕμιν ὑπέρσχη χεῖρα Κρονίων;"
- 250 Ὡς ὃ γε κοιρανέων ἐπεπωλείτο στίχας ἀνδρῶν·  
 ἦλθε δ' ἐπὶ Κρήτεσσι κιὼν ἀνὰ οὐλαμὸν ἀνδρῶν.  
 οἱ δ' ἀμφ' Ἰδομενῆα δαΐφρονα θωρήσسونτο·  
 Ἰδομενεὺς μὲν ἐνὶ προμάχοις, συὶ εἵκελος ἀλκήν,  
 Μηριόνης δ' ἄρα οἱ πυμάτας ὥτρυνε φάλαγγας.  
 255 τοὺς δὲ ἰδὼν γήθησεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 αὐτίκα δ' Ἰδομενῆα προσηύδα μειλιχίοισιν·  
 "Ἰδομενεῦ, περὶ μὲν σε τίω Δαναῶν ταχυνώλων  
 ἡμὲν ἐνὶ πτολέμῳ ἦδ' ἀλλοίῳ ἐπὶ ἔργῳ  
 ἦδ' ἐν δαίθ', ὅτε πέρ τε γερούσιον αἶθοπα οἶνον  
 260 Ἀργείων οἱ ἄριστοι ἐνὶ κρητῆρι κέρωνται.  
 εἴ περ γάρ τ' ἄλλοι γε κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 δαιτρὸν πίνωσιν, σὸν δὲ πλεῖον δέπας αἰεὶ  
 ἔστηχ', ὥς περ ἐμοί, πῖεειν ὅτε θυμὸς ἀνώγοι.  
 ἀλλ' ὄρσειν πόλεμόνδ', οἷος πάρος εὖχεαι εἶναι."

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their tender flesh vultures will surely devour, and moreover we shall carry away in our ships their dear wives and little ones, when we have taken their citadel."

Whomever again he saw holding back from hateful war, these would he rebuke strongly with angry words: "You Argives that rage with the bow, you men of dishonor, have you no shame? Why is it that you stand around dazed in this way, like fawns that, when they have grown weary with running over a wide plain, stand still, and in their minds is no valor found at all? So you stand around dazed and fight not. Is it that you wait for the Trojans to come near where your ships with stately sterns are drawn up on the shore of the gray sea, to see if perhaps the son of Cronos will stretch out his arm over you?"

Thus as he gave his commands he ranged through the ranks of warriors; and he came to the Cretans as he went through the throng of men. They were arming for war around battle-minded Idomeneus; and Idomeneus stood among the foremost fighters like a wild boar in valor, while Meriones was urging on the hindmost battalions. At sight of them Agamemnon, lord of men, rejoiced, and at once he spoke to Idomeneus with gentle words: "Idomeneus, beyond all the Danaans with swift steeds do I show honor to you both in war and in other tasks, and at the feast, when the chief men of the Argives mix in the bowl the ruddy wine of the elders. For though the other long-haired Achaeans drink an allotted portion, your cup stands always full, just as mine does, to drink whenever your heart commands. But rouse yourself for battle, and be such a one as you declare you once were."

- 265 Τὸν δ' αὖτ' Ἴδομενεὺς Κρητῶν ἀγὸς ἀντίον ἦῤδα·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ, μάλα μὲν τοι ἐγὼν ἐρίηρος ἐταῖρος  
 ἔσσομαι, ὥς τὸ πρῶτον ὑπέστην καὶ κατένευσα·  
 ἀλλ' ἄλλους ὄτρυνε κάρη κομόωντας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 ὄφρα τάχιστα μαχώμεθ', ἐπεὶ σύν γ' ὄρκι' ἔχευαν  
 270 Τρῶες· τοῖσιν δ' αὖ θάνατος καὶ κῆδέ' ὀπίσσω  
 ἔσσειτ', ἐπεὶ πρότεροι ὑπὲρ ὄρκια δηλήσαντο.”  
 Ὡς ἔφατ', Ἀτρεΐδης δὲ παρῶχετο γηθόσυνος κῆρ·  
 ἦλθε δ' ἐπ' Αἰάντεσσι κιὼν ἀνὰ οὐλαμὸν ἀνδρῶν·  
 τῷ δὲ κορυσσέσθην, ἅμα δὲ νέφος εἶπετο πεζῶν.  
 275 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἀπὸ σκοπιῆς εἶδεν νέφος αἰπόλος ἀνὴρ  
 ἐρχόμενον κατὰ πόντον ὑπὸ Ζεφύροιο ἰωῆς·  
 τῷ δέ τ' ἄνευθεν ἑόντι<sup>12</sup> μελάντερον ἥντε πίσσα  
 φαίνεται ἰὸν κατὰ πόντον, ἄγει δέ τε λαίλαπα πολλήν·  
 ῥίγησέν τε ἰδὼν, ὑπὸ τε σπέος ἤλασε μῆλα·  
 280 τοῖαι ἄμ' Αἰάντεσσι διοτρεφέων αἰζηνῶν  
 δήιον ἐς πόλεμον πυκιναὶ κίνυντο φάλαγγες  
 κυάνεαι,<sup>13</sup> σάκεσιν τε καὶ ἔγχεσι πεφρικυῖαι.  
 καὶ τοὺς μὲν γήθησεν ἰδὼν κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 καὶ σφεας φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 285 “Αἶαντ', Ἀργείων ἡγήτορε χαλκοχιτώνων,  
 σφῶι μὲν—οὐ γὰρ ἔοικ' ὄτρυνέμεν—οὐ τι κελεύω·  
 αὐτῷ γὰρ μάλα λαὸν ἀνώγετον ἱφὶ μάχεσθαι.  
 αἶ γάρ, Ζεῦ τε πάτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίῃ καὶ Ἀπολλῶνι,  
 τοῖος πᾶσιν θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι γένοιτο·  
 290 τῷ κε τάχ' ἡμύσειε πόλις Πριάμοιο ἀνακτος,

<sup>12</sup> ἑόντι: ἰόντι Zenodotus.



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To him then Idomeneus, leader of the Cretans, made answer: "Son of Atreus, I will surely be to you a trusty comrade, just as at the first I promised and nodded my head; but urge on the other long-haired Achaeans so that we may fight very soon, since the Trojans have made our oaths of no effect. Death and woes shall be their lot in future, since they were the first to work violence in defiance of the oaths."

So he spoke, and the son of Atreus passed on, glad at heart, and came to the two Aiantes as he went through the throng of warriors; they were arming for battle, and a cloud of foot soldiers followed with them. Just as when from some lookout point a goatherd sees a cloud coming over the face of the deep before the blast of the West Wind, and to him, being far off, it seems blacker than pitch as it passes over the face of the deep, and it brings a mighty whirlwind; and he shudders at sight of it, and drives his flock into a cave; so by the side of the two Aiantes did the thick battalions of youths, nurtured by Zeus, move into furious war—dark battalions, bristling with shields and spears. At sight of these lord Agamemnon rejoiced, and he spoke and addressed them with winged words: "Aiantes, leaders of the bronze-clad Argives, to you two—for it is not right to urge you—I give no charge; for of yourselves you order your men to do battle with might and main. Father Zeus and Athene and Apollo, I wish that such heart as yours might be found in the breasts of all; then would the city of king

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<sup>13</sup> *κνάνεαι: ἡρώων* Zenodotus.

χερσὶν ὑφ' ἡμετέρησιν ἀλοῦσά τε περθομένη τε.”

- “Ὡς εἰπὼν τοὺς μὲν λίπεν αὐτοῦ, βῆ δὲ μετ' ἄλλους·  
 ἐνθ' ὃ γε Νέστορ' ἔτετμε, λιγὺν Πυλίων ἀγορηγὴν,  
 οὓς ἐτάρους στέλλοντα καὶ ὀτρύνοντα μάχεσθαι,  
 295 ἀμφὶ μέγαν Πελάγοντα Ἀλάστορά τε Χρομίον τε  
 Αἴμονά τε κρείοντα Βίαντά τε, ποιμένα λαῶν.  
 ἱππῆας μὲν πρῶτα σὺν ἵπποισιν καὶ ὄχεσφι,  
 πεζοὺς δ' ἐξόπιθε στήσεν πολέας τε καὶ ἐσθλοὺς,  
 ἔρκος ἔμεν πολέμοιο· κακοὺς δ' ἐς μέσσον ἔλασσεν,  
 300 ὄφρα καὶ οὐκ ἐθέλων τις ἀναγκαίῃ πολεμίζοι.  
 ἱππεῦσιν μὲν πρῶτ' ἐπετέλλετο· τοὺς γὰρ ἀνώγει  
 σφοὺς ἵππους ἐχέμεν μηδὲ κλονέεσθαι ὁμίλῳ·  
 “μηδέ τις ἵπποσύνη τε καὶ ἡνορέηφι πεποιθὼς  
 οἶος πρόσθ' ἄλλων μεμάτω Τρώεσσι μάχεσθαι,  
 305 μηδ' ἀναχωρεῖτω· ἀλαπαδνότεροι γὰρ ἔσεσθε.  
 ὅς δέ κ' ἀνὴρ ἀπὸ ὧν ὀχέων ἕτερ' ἄρμαθ' ἵκηται,  
 ἔγχει ὀρεξάσθω, ἐπεὶ ἦ πολὺ φέρτερον οὕτω.  
 ὦδε καὶ οἱ πρότεροι πόλεας καὶ τείχε' ἐπόρθεον,  
 τόνδε νόον καὶ θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ἔχοντες.”  
 310 “Ὡς ὁ γέρων ὄτρυνε πάλαι πολέμων εὐ εἰδώς·  
 καὶ τὸν μὲν γήθησεν ἰδὼν κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 καὶ μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “ὦ γέρον, εἴθ', ὥς θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι φίλοισιν,  
 ὥς τοι γούναθ' ἔποιτο, βίῃ δέ τοι ἔμπεδος εἴη.  
 315 ἀλλὰ σε γῆρας τείρει ὁμοίον· ὥς ὄφελέν τις  
 ἀνδρῶν ἄλλος ἔχειν, σὺ δὲ κουροτέροισι μετεῖναι.”

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ, μάλα μὲν τοι ἐγὼν ἐθέλοιμι καὶ αὐτὸς

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Priam immediately bow its head, taken and sacked by our hands."

So saying, he left them there and went to others. Then he found Nestor, the clear-voiced orator of the Pylians, arraying his comrades and urging them to fight, around great Pelagon and Alastor and Chromius and lord Haemon and Bias, shepherd of men. The charioteers first he arrayed with their horses and chariots, and behind them the foot soldiers, many and brave, to be a bulwark of battle; but the cowards he drove to the middle, so that, even unwilling, a man would fight out of necessity. On the charioteers was he first laying his charge, and he commanded them to keep their horses back and not to become entangled in the throng. "Neither let any man, trusting in his horsemanship and his valor, be eager to fight with the Trojans alone in front of the rest, nor yet let him draw back; for so will you be the feeble. But whatever man from his own chariot can come at a chariot of the foe, let him thrust with his spear, since it is far better so. Thus also did men of olden time lay waste cities and walls, having in their breasts intent and heart like this."

So was the old man urging them on, having knowledge of battles from long ago. At sight of him lord Agamemnon rejoiced, and he spoke, and addressed him with winged words: "Old Sir, I wish that, like the heart in your breast, so your limbs might obey, and your strength be firm. But evil old age presses hard on you; I wish that some other among the warriors had your years, and that you were among the youths."

To him then made answer the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: "Son of Atreus, I, too, would very much wish that

- ὥς ἔμεν ὥς ὅτε δῖον Ἑρενθαλίωνα κατέκταν.  
 320 ἀλλ' οὐ πως ἅμα πάντα θεοὶ δόσαν ἀνθρώποισιν·  
 εἰ τότε κοῦρος ἔα, νῦν αὐτέ με γῆρας ὀπάζει.<sup>14</sup>  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ὥς ἵππεῦσι μετέσσομαι ἡδὲ κελεύσω  
 βουλῇ καὶ μύθοισι· τὸ γὰρ γέρας ἐστὶ γερόντων.  
 αἰχμὰς δ' αἰχμάσσουσι νεώτεροι, οἳ περ ἐμείο  
 325 ὀπλότεροι γεγάασι πεποιθάσιν τε βίηφιν.”  
 Ὡς ἔφατ', Ἀτρεΐδης δὲ παρώχετο γηθόσυνος κῆρ.  
 εὖρ' υἱὸν Πετεῶο Μενεσθῆα πλήξιππον  
 ἑσταότ'· ἀμφὶ δ' Ἀθηναῖοι, μήστωρες αὐτῆς·  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ πλησίον ἐστήκει πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς,  
 330 πὰρ δὲ Κεφαλλήνων ἀμφὶ στίχες οὐκ ἀλαπαδναὶ  
 ἑστασαν· οὐ γάρ πώ σφιν ἀκούετο λαὸς αὐτῆς,  
 ἀλλὰ νέον συνορινόμεναι κίνυντο φάλαγγες  
 Τρώων ἵπποδάμων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν· οἳ δὲ μένοντες  
 ἑστασαν, ὅππότε πύργος Ἀχαιῶν ἄλλος ἐπελθὼν  
 335 Τρώων ὀρμήσειε καὶ ἄρξειαν πολέμοιο.  
 τοὺς δὲ ἰδὼν νεΐκεσσειν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμεμνων,  
 καὶ σφεας φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “ὦ νιὲ Πετεῶο διοτρεφέος βασιλῆος,  
 καὶ σύ, κακοῖσι δόλοισι κεκασμένε, κερδαλεόφρον,<sup>15</sup>  
 340 τίπτε καταπτώσσοντες ἀφέστατε, μίμνετε δ' ἄλλους;  
 σφῶιν μὲν τ' ἐπέοικε μετὰ πρώτοισιν ἔοντας  
 ἑστάμεν ἡδὲ μάχης καυστείρης ἀντιβολῆσαι·  
 πρώτῳ γὰρ καὶ δαιτὸς ἀκουάζεσθον ἐμείο,  
 ὅππότε δαῖτα γέρουσιν ἐφοπλίζωμεν Ἀχαιοί.  
 345 ἔνθα φίλ' ὀπταλέα κρέα ἔδμεναι ἡδὲ κύπελλα  
 οἶνον πινέμεναι μελιηδέος, ὅφρ' ἐθέλητον·

I were such a one as on the day when I slew noble Ereuthalion. But in no way do the gods grant to men all things at the same time. As I was then a youth, so now does old age attend me. But even so will I be among the charioteers and will urge them on by counsel and by words; since that is the privilege of elders. Spears will young men wield who are more youthful than I and have confidence in their strength."

So he spoke, and the son of Atreus passed on glad at heart. He found Menestheus, driver of horses, son of Peteos, standing there, and around him were the Athenians, masters of the war cry. And nearby stood Odysseus of many wiles, and with him the ranks of the Cephallenians, no weaklings, were standing there; for their army had not yet heard the war cry, but the battalions of the horse-taming Trojans and the Achaeans had only recently begun to move against one another; so these stood, and waited until some other detachment of the Achaeans should advance to set on the Trojans, and begin the battle. At sight of these Agamemnon, lord of men, rebuked them, and spoke, and addressed them with winged words: "Son of Peteos, the king nurtured by Zeus, and you who excel in evil wiles, you of crafty mind, why do you stand apart cowering, and wait for others? You two should properly take your stand among the foremost, and confront blazing battle; for you are the first to hear my call to the feast, when we Achaeans make ready a banquet for the elders. Then you are happy to eat roast meat and drink cups of honey-sweet wine as long as you will. But now you would happily watch,

<sup>14</sup> ὁπάζει: ἰκάνει (cf. 8. 102).

<sup>15</sup> κερδαλεόφρον: φαίδιμ' Ὀδυσσεύ Zenodotus.

νῦν δὲ φίλως χ' ὀρόφτε καὶ εἰ δέκα πύργοι Ἀχαιῶν  
ὑμείων προπάροιθε μαχοίατο νηλεί χαλκῶ.”

Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσ-  
σεύς·

- 350 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ, ποῖόν σε ἔπος φύγεν ἕρκος ὀδόντων;  
πῶς δὴ φῆς πολέμοιο μεθιέμεν, ὅππότε Ἀχαιοὶ  
Τρῶσιν ἐφ' ἵπποδάμοισιν ἐγείρομεν ὅξυν Ἄρηα;  
ὄψαι, ἦν ἐθέλησθα καὶ αἶ κέν τοι τὰ μεμήλη,  
Τηλεμάχοιο φίλον πατέρα προμάχοισι μιγέντα  
355 Τρώων ἵπποδάμων· σὺ δὲ ταῦτ' ἀνεμώλια βάζεις.”

Τὸν δ' ἐπιμειδήσας προσέφη κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,  
ὥς γνῶ χωομένοιο· πάλιν δ' ὃ γε λάζετο μῦθον·  
“διογενὲς Λαερτιάδῃ, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεύ,  
οὔτε σε νεικείω περιώσιον οὔτε κελεύω·

- 360 οἶδα γὰρ ὥς τοι θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι φίλοισιν  
ἦπια δήνεα οἶδε· τὰ γὰρ φρονέεις ἅ τ' ἐγὼ περ.  
ἀλλ' ἴθι, ταῦτα δ' ὀπισθεν ἀρεσσόμεθ', εἴ τι κακὸν νῦν  
εἴρηται, τὰ δὲ πάντα θεοὶ μεταμῶνια θέειν.”

Ὡς εἰπὼν τοὺς μὲν λίπεν αὐτοῦ, βῆ δὲ μετ' ἄλλους.

- 365 εὔρε δὲ Τυδέος υἱόν, ὑπέρθυμον Διομήδεα,  
ἔσταότ' ἔν θ' ἵπποισι καὶ ἄρμασι κολλητοῖσιν  
πὰρ δέ οἱ ἐστήκει Σθένελος, Καπανήιος υἱός.  
καὶ τὸν μὲν νείκεσσε ἰδὼν κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,  
καί μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
370 “ὦ μοι, Τυδέος υἱὲ δαΐφρονος ἵπποδάμοιο,  
τί πτώσσεις, τί δ' ὀπιπεύεις πολέμοιο γεφύρας;  
οὐ μὲν Τυδέι γ' ᾧδε φίλον πτωσκαζέμεν ἦεν,  
ἀλλὰ πολὺ πρὸ φίλων ἐτάρων δηίοισι μάχεσθαι,

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even if ten detachments of the Achaeans were to fight in front of you with the pitiless bronze."

Then with an angry glance Odysseus of many wiles addressed him: "Son of Atreus, what a word has escaped the barrier of your teeth! How can you say that we slack from battle, whenever we Achaeans rouse sharp battle against the horse-taming Trojans? You will see, if you wish and if you have any interest, the dear father of Telemachus mingling with the foremost fighters of the horse-taming Trojans. What you say is as empty as the wind."

Then lord Agamemnon spoke to him with a smile, when he saw that he was angry, and took back his words: "Zeus-born son of Laertes, Odysseus of many wiles, I neither rebuke you excessively nor order you, for I know that the heart in your breast knows kindly thoughts, for you think as I do. But come, these things we will make good later on, if any harsh word has been spoken now; and may the gods make all these things come to nothing."

So saying he left them there and went to others. Then he found the son of Tydeus, Diomedes high of heart, as he stood by his horse and jointed chariot; and by his side stood Sthenelus, son of Capaneus. At sight of him too lord Agamemnon rebuked him, and spoke and addressed him with winged words: "Ah me, son of battle-minded Tydeus, tamer of horses, why do you cower, why do you gaze at the lines of battle? It was surely not Tydeus' habit to cower in this way, but far in advance of his comrades to fight against

- ὥς φάσαν οἳ μιν ἴδοντο πονεύμενον· οὐ γὰρ ἔγωγε  
 375 ἦντησ' οὐδὲ ἴδον· περὶ δ' ἄλλων φασὶ γενέσθαι.  
 ἦ τοι μὲν γὰρ ἄτερ πολέμου εἰσῆλθε Μυκῆνας  
 ξείνος ἄμ' ἀντιθέω Πολυνείκει, λαὸν ἀγείρων·  
 οἱ δὲ τότ' ἐστρατόωνθ' ἱερὰ πρὸς τείχεα Θήβης,  
 καὶ ῥα μάλα λίσσοντο δόμεν κλειτοὺς ἐπικούρους·  
 380 οἱ δ' ἔθελον δόμεναι καὶ ἐπῆνεον ὥς ἐκέλευον·  
 ἀλλὰ Ζεὺς ἔτρεψε παραΐσια σήματα φαίνων.  
 οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν ὥχοντο ἰδὲ πρὸ ὁδοῦ ἐγένοντο,  
 Ἄσωπὸν δ' ἵκοντο βαθύσχοινον λεχεποῖν,  
 ἔνθ' αὖτ' ἀγγελίην ἐπὶ Τυδῇ στείλαν Ἀχαιοί.  
 385 αὐτὰρ ὁ βῆ, πολέας δὲ κιχήσατο Καδμεΐωνας  
 δαινυμένους κατὰ δῶμα βίης Ἐτεοκλήϊης.  
 ἔνθ' οὐδὲ ξείνός περ ἐὼν ἱππηλάτα Τυδεὺς  
 τάρβει, μῦνος ἐὼν πολέσιν μετὰ Καδμείοισιν,  
 ἀλλ' ὃ γ' ἀεθλεύειν προκαλίζετο, πάντα δ' ἐνίκα  
 390 ῥηιδίως· τοίη οἱ ἐπίρροθος ἦεν Ἀθήνη.  
 οἱ δὲ χολωσάμενοι Καδμεῖοι, κέντορες ἵππων,  
 ἄψ ἄρ' ἀνερχομένῳ πυκινὸν λόχον εἶσαν ἄγοντες,  
 κούρους πεντήκοντα· δύω δ' ἡγήτορες ἦσαν  
 Μαίων Αἰμονίδης, ἐπιείκελος ἀθανάτοισιν,  
 395 υἱὸς τ' Αὐτοφόνοιο, μενεπτόλεμος Πολυφόντης.  
 Τυδεὺς μὲν καὶ τοῖσιν ἀεικέα πότμον ἐφῆκε·  
 πάντας ἔπεφν', ἓνα δ' οἷον ἱεὶ οἰκόνδε νέεσθαι·  
 Μαίον' ἄρα προέηκε, θεῶν τεράεσσι πιθήσας.  
 τοῖος ἔην Τυδεὺς Αἰτώλιος· ἀλλὰ τὸν υἱὸν  
 400 γείνατο εἶο χέρεια μάχῃ, ἀγορῇ δέ τ' ἀμείνω.”



## BOOK 4

the foe, as they tell who saw him amid the toil of war; for I never met him or saw him; but men say that he was preeminent over all. In fact he once came to Mycenae, not as a foe, but as a guest, in company with godlike Polyneices, to gather an army; for at that time they were waging a war against the holy walls of Thebes, and earnestly did they beg that glorious allies be granted them; and the men of Mycenae were minded to grant them, and were assenting just as they urged, but Zeus turned their minds by showing tokens of ill. So when they had left and were gone on their way, and had come to the grassy Asopus with its deep reeds, there did the Achaeans send Tydeus on a mission. And he went, and found the many sons of Cadmus feasting in the house of mighty Eteocles. Then, though he was a stranger, the horseman Tydeus feared not, all alone though he was among the many Cadmeians, but challenged them all to feats of strength and in every one defeated them very easily; such a helper was Athene to him. But the Cadmeians, goaders of horses, grew angry, and as he traveled back, brought out and set a strong ambush, fifty youths, and two there were as leaders, Maeon, son of Haemon, peer of the immortals, and Autophonos' son, Polyphontes, firm in the fight. But Tydeus on these let loose a hideous fate: he slew them all and only one man did he send to return home; Maeon he sent on in obedience to the portents of the gods. Such a man was Tydeus of Aetolia; but the son he begot is worse than he in battle, though in the place of assembly he is better."

ὣς φάτο, τὸν δ' οὐ τι προσέφη κρατερὸς Διομήδης,

αἰδεσθεὶς βασιλῆος ἐνιπὴν αἰδοίοιο·

τὸν δ' υἱὸς Καπανῆος ἀμείψατο κυδαλίμοιο·

“Ἀτρεΐδῃ, μὴ ψεύδε' ἐπιστάμενος σάφα εἰπεῖν.

405 ἡμεῖς τοι πατέρων μέγ' ἀμείνονες εὐχόμεθ' εἶναι·

ἡμεῖς καὶ Θήβης ἔδος εἵλομεν ἑπταπύλοιο,

παυρότερον λαὸν ἀγαγόνθ' ὑπὸ τείχος ἄρειον,<sup>16</sup>

πειθόμενοι τεράεσσι θεῶν καὶ Ζηνὸς ἀρωγῇ·

κεῖνοι δὲ σφετέρησιν ἀτασθαλίησιν ὄλοντο·

410 τῷ μὴ μοι πατέρας ποθ' ὁμοίῃ ἔνθεο τιμῇ.”

Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη κρατερὸς Διομήδης·

“τέττα, σιωπῇ ἦσο, ἐμῷ δ' ἐπιπείθεο μύθῳ·

οὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ νεμεσῶ Ἀγαμέμνονι, ποιμένι λαῶν,

ὁτρύνοντι μάχεσθαι ἐκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς·

415 τούτῳ μὲν γὰρ κῦδος ἅμ' ἔψεται, εἴ κεν Ἀχαιοὶ

Τρῶας δηώσωσιν ἔλωσί τε Ἴλιον ἱρήν,

τούτῳ δ' αὖ μέγα πένθος Ἀχαιῶν δηωθέντων.

ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ καὶ νῶι μεδώμεθα θούριδος ἀλκῆς.”

Ἥ ῥα, καὶ ἐξ ὀχέων σὺν τεύχεσιν ἄλτο χαμᾶζε·

420 δεινὸν δ' ἔβραχε χαλκὸς ἐπὶ στήθεσσι νῆακος

ὀρτυμένον· ὑπὸ κεν ταλασίφρονά περ δέος εἶλεν.

ὣς δ' ὅτ' ἐν αἰγιαλῷ πολυηχεί κῦμα θαλάσσης

ὀρτυτ' ἐπασσύτερον Ζεφύρον ὑποκινήσαντος·

πόντῳ μὲν τε πρῶτα κορύσσεται, αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα

425 χέρσῳ ῥηγνύμενον μεγάλα βρέμει, ἀμφὶ δέ τ' ἄκρας

κυρτὸν ἐὼν κορυφούται, ἀποπτύει δ' ἄλὸς ἄχνην·

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So he spoke, and mighty Diomedes answered him not a word, but had regard for the reproach of the respected king. But the son of glorious Capaneus made answer: "Son of Atreus, do not utter lies, when you know how to speak truly. We declare ourselves to be better men by far than our fathers: we took the seat of Thebes of the seven gates, when we two had gathered a lesser army against a stronger wall, putting our trust in the portents of the gods and in the aid of Zeus; but they perished through their own blind folly. So do not ever place our fathers in the same honor with us."

Then with an angry glance mighty Diomedes addressed him: "Good friend, keep silent, and obey my words. I do not fault Agamemnon, shepherd of men, for urging on to battle the well-greaved Achaeans; for him will great glory follow if the Achaeans slay the Trojans and take sacred Ilios, and him likewise great sorrow, if the Achaeans are slain. But come, let us also take thought of furious valor."

He spoke, and leapt in his armor from his chariot to the ground, and terribly rang the bronze on the breast of the king as he moved; terror would have seized even one who was steadfast of heart.

As when on a sounding beach the swell of the sea beats, wave after wave, before the driving of the West Wind; out on the deep first it is gathered in a crest, but then it breaks on the land and thunders aloud, and around the headlands it swells and rears its head, and spews out the salt

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<sup>16</sup> Lines 407-409 were rejected by Aristarchus.

- ὥς τότ' ἐπασσύτεραι Δαναῶν κίνυντο φάλαγγες  
 νωλεμέως πόλεμόνδε· κέλευε δὲ οἷσιν ἕκαστος  
 ἡγεμόνων· οἱ δ' ἄλλοι ἀκὴν ἴσαν, οὐδέ κε φαίης  
 430 τόσσον λαὸν ἔπεσθαι ἔχοντ' ἐν στήθεσιν αὐδὴν,  
 σιγῇ δειδιότες σημάντορας· ἀμφὶ δὲ πᾶσι  
 τεύχεα ποικίλ' ἔλαμπε, τὰ εἰμένοι ἐστιχόωντο.  
 Τρῶες δ', ὥς τ' οἷες πολυπάμονος ἀνδρὸς ἐν αὐλῇ  
 μυρίαὶ ἐστήκασιν ἀμελγόμεναι γάλα λευκόν,  
 435 ἀζηχὲς μεμακῦναι ἀκούουσαι ὄπα ἀρνῶν,  
 ὥς Τρώων ἀλαλητὸς ἀνὰ στρατὸν εὐρὺν ὀρώρει·  
 οὐ γὰρ πάντων ἦεν ὁμὸς θρόος οὐδ' ἴα γῆρυς,  
 ἀλλὰ γλῶσσ' ἐμέμικτο, πολὺκλητοὶ δ' ἔσαν ἄνδρες.  
 ὦρσε δὲ τοὺς μὲν Ἄρης, τοὺς δὲ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη  
 440 Δεῖμός τ' ἠδὲ Φόβος καὶ Ἔρις ἄμοτον μεμανῖα,  
 Ἄρεος ἀνδροφόνιοι κασιγνήτη ἐτάρη τε,  
 ἣ τ' ὀλίγη μὲν πρῶτα κορύσσεται, αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα  
 οὐρανῷ ἐστήριξε κάρη καὶ ἐπὶ χθονὶ βαίνει·  
 ἣ σφιν καὶ τότε νείκος ὁμοῖον ἔμβαλε μέσσω  
 445 ἐρχομένη καθ' ὄμιλον, ὀφέλλουσα στόνον ἀνδρῶν.  
 Οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἐς χῶρον ἓνα ξυνιόντες ἵκοντο,  
 σύν ῥ' ἔβαλον ῥινούς, σύν δ' ἔγχεα καὶ μένέ' ἀνδρῶν  
 χαλκεοθωρήκων· ἀτὰρ ἀσπίδες ὀμφαλόεσσαι  
 ἐπληντ' ἀλλήλησι, πολὺς δ' ὀρυμαγδὸς ὀρώρει.  
 450 ἔνθα δ' ἅμ' οἰμωγὴ τε καὶ εὐχολὴ πέλεν ἀνδρῶν  
 ὀλλύντων τε καὶ ὀλλυμένων, ῥέε δ' αἵματι γαῖα.  
 ὥς δ' ὅτε χεῖμαρροι ποταμοὶ κατ' ὄρεσφι ῥέοντες  
 ἐς μισγάγκειαν συμβάλλετον ὄβριμον ὕδωρ  
 κρουνῶν ἐκ μεγάλων κοίλης ἔντοσθε χαράδρης,

brine: so on that day did the battalions of the Danaans move, rank after rank, without cease into battle; and each leader gave orders to his own men, and the rest marched on in silence; you would have said that they who followed in such multitudes had no voice in their breasts, all silent as they were through fear of their commanders; and on every man flashed the inlaid armor in which they went clad. But for the Trojans, just as ewes past counting stand in the fold of a man of much substance to be milked of their white milk, and bleat without ceasing as they hear the voices of their lambs: so arose the clamor of the Trojans through the wide army; for they had not all like speech or one language, but their tongues were mixed, and they were men summoned from many lands. And the Trojans were urged on by Ares, and the Achaeans by flashing-eyed Athene, and Terror, and Rout, and Strife who rages incessantly, sister and comrade of man-slaying Ares; she first rears her crest only a little, but then her head is fixed in the heavens while her feet tread on earth. She it was who now cast evil strife into their midst as she went through the throng, making the groanings of men to increase.

Now when they had met together and come into one place, then they dashed together their shields and spears and the fury of bronze-mailed warriors; and the bossed shields pressed one on another, and a great din arose. Then were heard alike the sound of groaning and the cry of triumph of the slayers and the slain, and the earth flowed with blood. As when winter torrents, flowing down the mountains from their great springs to a place where two valleys meet, join their mighty floods in a deep gorge,

455 τῶν δέ τε τηλόσε δοῦπον ἐν οὔρεσιν ἔκλυε ποιμήν·  
ὥς τῶν μισγομένων γένετο ἰαχή τε πόνος<sup>17</sup> τε.

Πρῶτος δ' Ἀντίλοχος Τρώων ἔλεν ἄνδρα κορυστήν  
ἐσθλὸν ἐνὶ προμάχοισι, Θαλυσιάδην Ἐχέπωλον·  
τόν ῥ' ἔβαλε πρῶτος κόρυθος φάλον ἵπποδασείης,  
460 ἐν δὲ μετώπῳ πῆξε, πέρησε δ' ἄρ' ὅστέον εἴσω  
αἰχμὴ χαλκείῃ· τὸν δὲ σκότος ὅσσε κάλυψεν,  
ἥριπε δ', ὥς ὅτε πύργος, ἐνὶ κρατερῇ ὕσμινῃ.  
τὸν δὲ πεσόντα ποδῶν ἔλαβε κρείων Ἐλεφήνωρ  
Χαλκωδοντιάδης, μεγαθύμων ἀρχὸς Ἀβάντων,  
465 ἔλκε δ' ὑπὲκ βελέων, λελιημένος ὄφρα τάχιστα  
τεύχεα συλήσει· μίνυνθα δέ οἱ γένεθ' ὄρμη.  
νεκρὸν γὰρ ἐρύοντα ἰδὼν μεγάλθυμος Ἀγήνωρ  
πλευρά, τά οἱ κύψαντι παρ' ἀσπίδος ἐξεφαάνθη,  
οὔτησε ξυστῶ χαλκήρεϊ, λῦσε δὲ γυνία.

470 ὥς τὸν μὲν λίπε θυμός, ἐπ' αὐτῷ δ' ἔργον ἐτύχθη  
ἀργαλέον Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν· οἱ δὲ λύκοι ὥς  
ἀλλήλοισι ἐπόρουσαν, ἀνὴρ δ' ἄνδρ' ἐδνοπάλιζεν.

Ἐνθ' ἔβαλ' Ἀνθεμίωνος νιὸν Τελαμώνιος Αἴας,  
ἠίθειον θαλερὸν Σιμοείσιον, ὃν ποτε μήτηρ  
475 Ἰδηθεν κατιοῦσα παρ' ὄχθησιν Σιμόεντος  
γείνατ', ἐπεὶ ῥα τοκεῦσιν ἅμ' ἔσπετο μῆλα ιδέσθαι·  
τοῦνεκά μιν κάλεον Σιμοείσιον· οὐδὲ τοκεῦσι  
θρέπτρα φίλοις ἀπέδωκε, μινυνθάδιος δέ οἱ αἰὼν  
ἔπλεθ' ὑπ' Αἴαντος μεγαθύμου δουρὶ δαμέντι.  
480 πρῶτον γάρ μιν ἰόντα βάλε στῆθος παρὰ μαζὸν

<sup>17</sup> πόνος Aristarchus: φόβος.

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and far off among the mountains the shepherd hears their thunder; so from the joining of these in battle came shouting and toil.

Antilochus was first to slay a warrior of the Trojans in full armor, a noble man among the foremost fighters, Echepolus, son of Thalysius. Him was he first to strike on the ridge of his helmet with crest of horsehair, and into his forehead drove the spear, and the spear-point of bronze passed into the bone; and darkness enfolded his eyes, and he crashed as does a wall, in the mighty combat. As he fell lord Elephenor caught him by the feet, the son of Chalcodon and leader of the great-hearted Abantes, and tried to drag him from beneath the missiles, eager with all speed to strip off his armor; yet only a short while did his striving last; for as he was dragging the corpse great-hearted Agenor caught sight of him, and where his side was left uncovered by his shield as he stooped, there he struck him with a thrust of his bronze-tipped spear, and loosed his limbs. So his spirit left him, and over his body was made grievous toil of Trojans and Achaeans. Like wolves they leapt on one another, and man made man to reel.

Then Telamonian Aias struck Anthemion's son, the vigorous youth Simoeisius, whom his mother had borne beside the banks of Simois, as she came down from Ida, where she had followed with her parents to see their flocks. For this reason they called him Simoeisius; yet he paid not back to his dear parents the recompense of his upbringing, and but brief was the span of his life, as he was laid low by the spear of great-hearted Aias. For as he strode among the foremost he was struck on the right of his chest beside the

δεξιόν· ἀντικρὺ δὲ δι' ὤμου χάλκεον ἔγχος  
 ἦλθεν· ὁ δ' ἐν κονίησι χαμαὶ πέσεν αἰγχειρος ὥς,  
 ἣ ῥά τ' ἐν εἰαμενῇ ἔλεος μέγαλοιο πεφύκει  
 λείη, ἀτάρ τέ οἱ ὄζοι ἐπ' ἀκροτάτῃ πεφύασιν·  
 485 τὴν μὲν θ' ἄρματοπηγὸς ἀνὴρ αἶθωνι σιδήρῳ  
 ἐξέταμ', ὄφρα ἵτυν κάμψῃ περικαλλεῖ δίφρῳ·  
 ἣ μὲν τ' ἀζομένη κείται ποταμοῖο παρ' ὄχθας.  
 τοῖον ἄρ' Ἀνθεμίδην Σιμοείσιον ἐξενάριξεν  
 Αἴας διογενής· τοῦ δ' Ἀντιφός αἰολοθώρηξ  
 490 Πριαμίδης καθ' ὄμιλον ἀκόντισεν ὀξεί δουρί.  
 τοῦ μὲν ἄμαρθ', ὁ δὲ Λεῦκον, Ὀδυσσέος ἐσθλὸν  
 ἑταῖρον,  
 βεβλήκει βουβῶνα, νέκυν ἐτέρωσ' ἐρύοντα·  
 ἥριπε δ' ἀμφ' αὐτῷ, νεκρὸς δέ οἱ ἔκπεσε χειρός.  
 τοῦ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς μάλα θυμὸν ἀποκταμένοιο χολώθη,  
 495 βῆ δὲ διὰ προμάχων κεκορυθμένος αἶθοπι χαλκῷ,  
 στῆ δὲ μάλ' ἐγγὺς ἰὼν καὶ ἀκόντισε δουρὶ φαεινῷ  
 ἀμφὶ ἐπαπτήνας· ὑπὸ δὲ Τρῶες κεκάδοντο  
 ἀνδρὸς ἀκοντίσσαντος. ὁ δ' οὐχ ἄλιον βέλος ἦκεν,  
 ἀλλ' υἱὸν Πριάμοιο νόθον βάλε Δημοκόωντα,  
 500 ὅς οἱ Ἀβυδόθεν ἦλθε, παρ' ἵππων ὠκειαῶν.  
 τὸν ῥ' Ὀδυσσεὺς ἐτάριοιο χολωσάμενος βάλε δουρὶ  
 κόρσῃ· ἣ δ' ἐτέριοιο διὰ κροτάφοιο πέρησεν  
 αἰχμὴ χαλκείῃ· τὸν δὲ σκότος ὅσσε κάλυψε,  
 δούπησεν δὲ πεσών, ἀράβησε δὲ τεύχε' ἐπ' αὐτῷ.  
 505 χώρησαν δ' ὑπὸ τε πρόμαχοι καὶ φαίδιμος Ἔκτωρ·  
 Ἀργεῖοι δὲ μέγα ἱαχον, ἐρύσαντο δὲ νεκρούς,  
 ἵθυσαν δὲ πολὺ προτέρω· νεμέσθησε δ' Ἀπόλλων



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nipple; and clean through his shoulder went the spear of bronze, and he fell to the ground in the dust like a poplar tree that has grown up in the bottom land of a great marsh, smooth, but from its top grow branches: this a chariot-maker has felled with the gleaming iron so that he may bend a wheel rim for a beautiful chariot, and it lies drying by a river's banks. In this way did Zeus-born Aias slay Simoeisius, son of Anthemion. And at him Priam's son, Antiphus of the flashing corselet, cast with his sharp spear among the throng. Him he missed, but struck in the groin Odysseus' noble comrade, Leucus, as he was dragging the corpse to the other side; so he fell on it, and the body slipped from his grasp. For his slaying was Odysseus mightily angered at heart, and among the foremost warriors he strode, armored in ruddy bronze; close to the foe he came and stood, and glancing warily about him hurled with his bright spear; and back did the Trojans shrink from the warrior as he cast. Not in vain did he let fly his spear, but struck Priam's bastard son Democoon, who had come at his call from Abydus, from his stud of swift mares. Him Odysseus, angered for his comrade's sake, struck with his spear on the temple, and out through the other temple passed the spear-point of bronze, and darkness enfolded his eyes, and he fell with a thud and over him his armor clanged. Then the foremost warriors and glorious Hector gave ground; and the Argives shouted aloud, and dragged off the bodies, and charged much further forward. And Apollo, looking down from Pergamus, was indignant, and

Περγάμον ἐκκατιδών, Τρώεσσι δὲ κέκλετ' αὔσας·  
 “ὄρνυσθ', ἱππόδαμοι Τρῶες, μῆδ' εἵκετε χάρμης  
 510 Ἀργείοις, ἐπεὶ οὐ σφί λίθος χρῶς οὐδὲ σίδηρος  
 χαλκὸν ἀνασχέσθαι ταμεσίχροα βαλλομένοισιν·  
 οὐ μὰν οὐδ' Ἀχιλεὺς, Θέτιδος παῖς ἠνυκόμοιο,  
 μάρναται, ἀλλ' ἐπὶ νηυσὶ χόλον θυμαλγέα πέσσει.”

“Ὡς φάτ' ἀπὸ πτόλιος δεινὸς θεός· αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιοὺς  
 515 ὦρσε Διὸς θυγάτηρ κυδίστη Τριτογένεια,  
 ἐρχομένη καθ' ὄμιλον, ὅθι μεθιέντας ἴδοιτο.

Ἐνθ' Ἀμαρυνγκείδην Διώρεα μοῖρ' ἐπέδησε·  
 χερμαδίῳ γὰρ βλῆτο παρὰ σφυρὸν ὀκρῖόντι  
 κνήμην δεξιτερὴν· βάλε δὲ Θρηκῶν ἀγὸς ἀνδρῶν,  
 520 Πείρως Ἰμβρασίδης, ὃς ἄρ' Αἰνόθεν εἰληλούθει.  
 ἀμφοτέρω δὲ τένοντε καὶ ὅστέα λᾶας ἀναιδῆς  
 ἄχρῖς ἀπηλοίησεν· ὃ δ' ὕπτιος ἐν κονίῃσι  
 κάππεσεν, ἄμφω χεῖρε φίλοις ἐτάροισι πετάσσας,  
 θυμὸν ἀποπνεύων· ὃ δ' ἐπέδραμεν ὃς ῥ' ἔβαλέν περ,  
 525 Πείρως, οὗτα δὲ δουρὶ παρ' ὀμφαλόν· ἐκ δ' ἄρα πᾶσαι  
 χύντο χαμαὶ χολάδες, τὸν δὲ σκότος ὄσσε κάλυψε.

Τὸν δὲ Θόας Αἰτωλὸς ἀπεσσύμενον βάλε δουρὶ  
 στέρνον ὑπὲρ μαζοῖο, πάγη δ' ἐν πνεύμονι χαλκός·  
 ἀγχίμολον δέ οἱ ἦλθε Θόας, ἐκ δ' ὄβριμον ἔγχος  
 530 ἐσπάσατο στέρνοιο, ἐρύσσατο δὲ ξίφος ὀξύ,  
 τῷ ὃ γε γαστέρα τύψε μέσσην, ἐκ δ' αἶντο θυμόν.  
 τεύχεα δ' οὐκ ἀπέδυσσε· περίστησαν γὰρ ἐταῖροι  
 Θρήικες ἀκρόκομοι, δολίχ' ἔγχεα χερσὶν ἔχοντες,  
 οἳ ἔ μέγαν περ ἔοντα καὶ ἴφθιμον καὶ ἀγανὸν  
 535 ὦσαν ἀπὸ σφείων· ὃ δὲ χασσάμενος πελεμήχθη.

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called with a shout to the Trojans: "Rouse yourselves, horse-taming Trojans, give not ground in fight before Argives; not of stone nor of iron is their flesh to resist the flesh-cutting bronze when they are struck. No, and Achilles moreover is not fighting, the son of fair-haired Thetis, but among the ships nurses his bitter wrath."

So from the city spoke the terrible god; but the Achaeans were urged on by the daughter of Zeus, most glorious Tritogeneia, who went through the throng wherever she saw them giving ground.

Then was Amarynceus' son, Diores, caught in the snare of fate; for with a jagged stone was he struck on the right leg by the ankle, and it was the leader of the Thracians that struck him, Peiros, son of Imbrasus, who had come from Aenus. The two sinews and the bones did the ruthless stone utterly crush; and he fell backward in the dust and stretched out both his hands to his dear comrades, gasping out his life; and there ran up he who struck him, Peiros, and dealt him a wound with a thrust of his spear beside the navel; and out on to the ground gushed all his bowels, and darkness enfolded his eyes.

But as the other sprang back Thoas of Aetolia struck him with a cast of his spear in the chest above the nipple, and the bronze was fixed in his lung; and Thoas came up to him, and pulled out from his chest the mighty spear, and drew his sharp sword and struck him with it in the middle of his belly, and took away his life. But of his armor he stripped him not, for around him his comrades, men of Thrace who wear their hair long at the top, stood with long spears grasped in their hands and, though he was great and mighty and lordly, thrust him back from them, so that he reeled and gave ground. Thus the two lay stretched in the

ὥς τώ γ' ἐν κονίῃσι παρ' ἀλλήλοισι τετάσθην,  
 ἦ τοι ὁ μὲν Θρηκῶν, ὁ δ' Ἐπειῶν χαλκοχιτώνων,  
 ἡγεμόνες· πολλοὶ δὲ περὶ κτείνοντο καὶ ἄλλοι.

Ἐνθα κεν οὐκέτι ἔργον ἀνὴρ ὀνόσαιο μετελθών,  
 540 ὅς τις ἔτ' ἄβλητος καὶ ἀνούτατος ὀξεί χαλκῷ  
 δινεύοι κατὰ μέσσον, ἄγοι δέ ἐ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη  
 χειρὸς ἐλοῦσ', αὐτὰρ βελέων ἀπερύκοι ἐρωήν·  
 πολλοὶ γὰρ Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν ἥματι κείνῳ  
 πρηνέες ἐν κονίῃσι παρ' ἀλλήλοισι τέταντο.

## BOOK 4

Just beside one another, leaders the one of the Thracians and the other of the bronze-clad Epeians; and around them were many others likewise slain.

Then a man could not any more enter into the battle and make light of it, one who still unwounded by missile or by thrust of sharp bronze might move through their midst, being led by Pallas Athene by the hand, and by her guarded from the onrush of missiles: for multitudes of Trojans and Achaeans alike were that day stretched beside one another with faces in the dust.

## Ε

- Ἐνθ' αὖ Τυδεΐδῃ Διομήδεϊ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη  
 δῶκε μένος καὶ θάρσος, ἔν' ἔκδηλον μετὰ πᾶσιν  
 Ἀργείοισι γένοιτο ἰδὲ κλέος ἐσθλὸν ἄροιτο.  
 δαΐέ οἱ ἐκ κόρυθός τε καὶ ἀσπίδος ἀκάματον πῦρ,  
 5 ἀστέρ' ὀπωρινῷ ἐναλίγκιον, ὅς τε μάλιστα  
 λαμπρὸν παμφαίνῃσι λελουμένος Ὠκεανοῖο·  
 τοῖόν οἱ πῦρ δαΐεν ἀπὸ κρατός τε καὶ ὤμων,  
 ὦρσε δέ μιν κατὰ μέσσον, ὅθι πλείστοι κλονέοντο.  
 Ἦν δέ τις ἐν Τρώεσσι Δάρης, ἀφνειὸς ἀμύμων,  
 10 ἱρεὺς Ἥφαιστοιο· δύω δέ οἱ νιέες ἦστην,  
 Φηγεὺς Ἰδαῖός τε, μάχης ἐν εἰδότε πάσης.  
 τῷ οἱ ἀποκρινθέντε ἐναντίῳ ὀρμηθήτην·  
 τὼ μὲν ἀφ' ἵππου, ὁ δ' ἀπὸ χθονὸς ὄρνυτο πεζός.  
 οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ σχεδὸν ἦσαν ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισιν ἰόντες,  
 15 Φηγεὺς ῥα πρότερος προΐει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος·  
 Τυδεΐδew δ' ὑπὲρ ὦμον ἀριστερὸν ἤλυθ' ἀκωκὴ  
 ἔγχεος, οὐδ' ἔβαλ' αὐτόν· ὁ δ' ὕστερος ὄρνυτο χαλκῷ  
 Τυδεΐδης· τοῦ δ' οὐχ ἄλιον βέλος ἔκφυγε χειρός,  
 ἀλλ' ἔβαλε στήθος μεταμάζιον, ὥσε δ' ἀφ' ἵππων.  
 20 Ἰδαῖος δ' ἀπόρουσε λιπὼν περικαλλέα δίφρον,  
 οὐδ' ἔτλη περιβῆναι ἀδελφειοῦ κταμένοιο·

## BOOK 5

And now to Tydeus' son, Diomedes, Pallas Athene gave force and courage, so that he might prove himself preeminent among all the Argives, and win glorious renown. She kindled from his helmet and shield flame unwearying, like the star of harvest-time that shines brightest of all others when he has bathed in the stream of Ocean. Such flame did she kindle from his head and shoulders; and she sent him into the midst where men thronged the thickest.

Now there was among the Trojans one Dares, a rich man and incomparable, a priest of Hephaestus; and he had two sons, Phegeus and Idaeus, both well skilled in all manner of fighting. These two separated themselves from the army and went out against Diomedes, they in their chariot, while he charged on foot on the ground. And when they came near as they advanced against each other, first Phegeus let fly his far-shadowing spear; and over the left shoulder of the son of Tydeus passed the point of the spear, and struck him not. Next Tydeus' son rushed on with the bronze, and not in vain did the shaft speed from his hand, but he struck his foe on the chest between the nipples, and thrust him from the chariot. And Idaeus sprang back, and left the beautiful chariot, and did not dare stand over his

- οὐδὲ γὰρ οὐδέ κεν αὐτὸς ὑπέκφυγε κῆρα μέλαιναν,  
 ἀλλ' Ἥφαιστος ἔρυτο, σάωσε δὲ νυκτὶ καλύψας,  
 ὥς δὴ οἱ μὴ πάγχυ γέρων ἀκαχήμενος εἶη.
- 25 ἵππους δ' ἐξέλασας μεγαθύμου Τυδέος υἱὸς  
 δῶκεν ἐταίροισιν κατάγειν κοίλας ἐπὶ νῆας.  
 Τρῶες δὲ μεγάθυμοι ἐπεὶ ἴδον νῆε Δάρητος  
 τὸν μὲν ἀλευάμενον, τὸν δὲ κτάμενον παρ' ὄχρεσφι,  
 πᾶσιν ὀρίνθη θυμός· ἀτὰρ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη
- 30 χειρὸς ἐλοῦσ' ἐπέεσσι προσηύδα θοῦρον Ἄρηα·  
 “Ἄρες Ἄρες βροτολοιγέ, μαιφόνε, τειχεσιπλῆτα,<sup>1</sup>  
 οὐκ ἂν δὴ Τρῶας μὲν ἐάσαιμεν καὶ Ἀχαιοὺς  
 μάρνασθ', ὅπποτέροισι πατήρ Ζεὺς κῦδος ὀρέξῃ,  
 νῶϊ δὲ χαζώμεσθα, Διὸς δ' ἀλεώμεθα μῆνιν;”
- 35 ὣς εἰποῦσα μάχης ἐξήγαγε θοῦρον Ἄρηα.  
 τὸν μὲν ἔπειτα καθείσεν ἐπ' ἠϊόεντι Σκαμάνδρῳ,  
 Τρῶας δ' ἔκλιναν Δαναοί· ἔλε δ' ἄνδρα ἕκαστος  
 ἡγεμόνων· πρῶτος δὲ ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων  
 ἀρχὸν Ἀλιζώνων Ὀδίων μέγαν ἔκβαλε δίφρου·
- 40 πρῶτῳ γὰρ στρεφθέντι μεταφρένῳ ἐν δόρῳ πῆξεν  
 ὦμων μεσσηγύς, διὰ δὲ στήθεσφιν ἔλασσε,  
 δούπησεν δὲ πεσών, ἀράβησε δὲ τεύχε' ἐπ' αὐτῷ.<sup>2</sup>  
 Ἴδομενεὺς δ' ἄρα Φαῖστον ἐνήρατο Μῆρονος υἱὸν  
 Βώρου, ὃς ἐκ Τάρνης ἐριβώλακος εἰληλούθει.
- 45 τὸν μὲν ἄρ' Ἴδομενεὺς δουρικλυτὸς ἔγχρῃ μακρῷ  
 νύξ' ἵππων ἐπιβησόμενον κατὰ δεξιὸν ὦμον·  
 ἥριπε δ' ἐξ ὀχέων, στυγερός δ' ἄρα μιν σκότος εἶλε.

<sup>1</sup> τειχεσιπλῆτα: τειχεσιβλήτα Zenodotus.



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slain brother. Nor indeed would he himself have escaped black fate, had not Hephaestus guarded him, and saved him, enfolding him in darkness, so that the old man might not be completely overcome with grief. But the horses the son of great-hearted Tydeus drove off and gave to his comrades to take to the hollow ships. But when the great-hearted Trojans saw the two sons of Dares, the one in flight and the other slain beside the chariot, the hearts of all were dismayed. And flashing-eyed Athene took furious Ares by the hand and spoke to him, saying: "Ares, Ares, you bane of mortals, you blood-stained stormer of walls, would it not be best to leave the Trojans and Achaeans to fight, so that father Zeus may grant glory to whichever side he wishes? But for the two of us, let us withdraw, and avoid the wrath of Zeus."

So she spoke, and led furious Ares away from the battle. Then she made him sit down on the sandy banks of Scamander, and the Trojans were turned in flight by the Danaans. Each one of the leaders slew his man; first the lord of men, Agamemnon, thrust from his chariot the leader of the Halizones, great Odius, for just as he turned to flee, he fixed his spear in his back between the shoulders and drove it through his chest; and he fell with a thud, and over him his armor clanged.

And Idomeneus slew Phaestus, son of Borus the Maeonian, who had come from deep-soiled Tarne. Him Idomeneus, famed for his spear, pierced with a thrust of his long spear through the right shoulder just as he was mounting his chariot; and he fell from his chariot, and hateful darkness seized him.

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<sup>2</sup> Line 42 is omitted in the best MSS.

- Τὸν μὲν ἄρ' Ἰδομενῆος ἐσύλευον θεράποντες·  
 νιὸν δὲ Στροφίοιο Σκαμάνδριον, αἵμονα θήρης,  
 50 Ἀτρεΐδης Μενέλαος ἔλ' ἔγχει ὀξύνοντι,  
 ἐσθλὸν θηρητῆρα· δίδαξε γὰρ Ἄρτεμις αὐτὴ  
 βάλλειν ἄγρια πάντα, τὰ τε τρέφει οὔρεσιν ὕλη.  
 ἀλλ' οὐ οἱ τότε γε χραῖσμ' Ἄρτεμις ἰοχέαιρα,<sup>3</sup>  
 οὐδὲ ἐκηβολίαι, ἧσιν τὸ πρὶν γ' ἐκέκαστο·  
 55 ἀλλὰ μιν Ἀτρεΐδης δουρικλειτὸς Μενέλαος  
 πρόσθεν ἔθεν φεύγοντα μετάφρενον οὔτασε δουρὶ  
 ὤμων μεσσηγύς, διὰ δὲ στήθεσφιν ἔλασσειν.  
 ἥριπε δὲ πρηνῆς, ἀράβησε δὲ τεύχε' ἐπ' αὐτῷ.  
 Μηριόνης δὲ Φέρεκλον ἐνήρατο, Τέκτονος νιόν  
 60 Ἀρμονίδεω, ὃς χερσὶν ἐπίστατο δαίδαλα πάντα  
 τεύχειν· ἔξοχα γάρ μιν ἐφίλατο Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη·  
 ὃς καὶ Ἀλεξάνδρῳ τεκτῆνατο νῆας εἰσας  
 ἀρχεκάκους, αἱ πᾶσι κακὸν Τρώεσσι γέγοντο  
 οἱ τ' αὐτῷ, ἐπεὶ οὐ τι θεῶν ἐκ θέσφατα ἦδη.<sup>4</sup>  
 65 τὸν μὲν Μηριόνης, ὅτε δὴ κατέμαρπτε διώκων,  
 βεβλήκει γλουτὸν κατὰ δεξιόν· ἥ δὲ διαπρὸ  
 ἀντικρὺ κατὰ κύστιν ὑπ' ὀστέον ἤλυθ' ἀκωκή·  
 γυνὴ δ' ἔριπ' οἰμώξας, θάνατος δέ μιν ἀμφεκάλυψε.  
 Πήδαιον δ' ἄρ' ἔπεφνε Μέγης, Ἀντήνορος νιόν,  
 70 ὃς ῥα νόθος μὲν ἦεν, πύκα δ' ἔτρεφε δῖα Θεανῶ  
 ἴσα φίλοισι τέκεσσι, χαριζομένη πόσει ᾧ.  
 τὸν μὲν Φυλεΐδης δουρικλυτὸς ἐγγύθεν ἐλθὼν

<sup>3</sup> χραῖσμ' Ἄρτεμις ἰοχέαιρα: χραῖσμεν θανάτοιο πέλωρα Zenodotus.

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Him then the attendants of Idomeneus stripped of his armor; and Scamandrius, son of Strophius, skilled in the chase, did Atreus' son Menelaus slay with his sharp spear. A mighty hunter he was, for Artemis herself had taught him to shoot all wild things that the mountain forest nurtures. Yet in no way did the archer Artemis avail him now, nor did all that skill in archery in which formerly he excelled; but the son of Atreus, Menelaus famed for his spear, struck him as he fled before him with a thrust of his spear in the back between the shoulders, and drove it through his chest. So he fell face foremost, and over him his armor clanged.

And Meriones slew Phereclus, son of Tecton, Harmon's son, whose hands were skilled in fashioning all manner of elaborate work; for Pallas Athene loved him especially. He it was who had also built for Alexander the shapely ships, source of ills, which became the bane of all the Trojans and of himself, since he did not at all know the oracles of the gods. Him Meriones pursued, and when he had caught up with him, struck him in the right buttock, and the spear-point passed clean through to the bladder beneath the bone; and he fell to his knees with a groan, and death enfolded him.

And Pedaeus, Antenor's son, was slain by Meges; he was actually a bastard, but noble Theano had reared him carefully like her own children, to please her husband. To him Phyleus' son, famed for his spear, came up and

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<sup>4</sup> Line 64 was rejected by Aristarchus.

βεβλήκει κεφαλῆς κατὰ ἰνίον ὀξεί δουρί·  
 ἀντικρὺ δ' ἀν' ὀδόντας ὑπὸ γλῶσσαν τάμε χαλκός·  
 75 ἤριπε δ' ἐν κονίῃ, ψυχρὸν δ' ἔλε χαλκὸν ὀδοῦσιν.

Εὐρύπυλος δ' Εὐαιμονίδης Ὑψήνορα δῖον,  
 υἷον ὑπερθύμου Δολοπίονος, ὅς ῥα Σκαμάνδρου  
 ἀρηγῆρ ἐτέτυκτο, θεὸς δ' ὥς τίετο δῆμῳ,  
 τὸν μὲν ἄρ' Εὐρύπυλος, Εὐαίμονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός,  
 80 πρόσθεν ἔθεν φεύγοντα μεταδρομάδην ἔλασ' ὦμον  
 φασγάνῳ αἵξας, ἀπὸ δ' ἔξεσε χεῖρα βαρεῖαν.  
 αἱματόεσσα δὲ χεῖρ πεδίῳ πέσε· τὸν δὲ κατ' ὅσσε  
 ἔλλαβε πορφύρεος θάνατος καὶ μοῖρα κραταιή.

Ὡς οἱ μὲν πονέοντο κατὰ κρατερὴν ὑσμίνην·  
 85 Τυδεΐδην δ' οὐκ ἂν γνοίης ποτέροισι μετείη,  
 ἢ ἐμετὰ Τρώεσσιν ὁμιλέοι ἢ μετ' Ἀχαιοῖς.  
 θῦνε γὰρ ἅμ πεδίον ποταμῷ πλήθοντι ἐοικῶς  
 χειμάρρῳ, ὅς τ' ὦκα ῥέων ἐκέδασσε γεφύρας·  
 τὸν δ' οὔτ' ἄρ τε γέφυραι ἐεργμέναι ἰσχανόωσιν,  
 90 οὔτ' ἄρα ἔρκεα ἴσχει ἀλῶάων ἐριθηλέων  
 ἐλθόντ' ἐξαπίνης, ὅτ' ἐπιβρίσῃ Διὸς ὄμβρος·  
 πολλὰ δ' ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἔργα κατήριπε κάλ' αἰζήων.  
 ὥς ὑπὸ Τυδεΐδῃ πυκινὰ κλονέοντο φάλαγγες  
 Τρώων, οὐδ' ἄρα μιν μίμνον πολέες περ ἐόντες.

95 Τὸν δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησε Λυκάονος ἀγλαὸς υἱὸς  
 θύνοντ' ἅμ πεδίον πρὸ ἔθεν κλονέοντα φάλαγγας,  
 αἰψ' ἐπὶ Τυδεΐδῃ ἐτιταίνεται καμπύλα τόξα,  
 καὶ βάλ' ἐπαΐσσοντα τυχῶν κατὰ δεξιὸν ὦμον,  
 θώρηκος γύαλον· διὰ δ' ἔπατο πικρὸς οἰστός,  
 100 ἀντικρὺ δὲ διέσχε, παλάσσετο δ' αἵματι θώρηξ.

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struck him with a cast of his sharp spear at the sinew of the head; and straight through between the teeth the bronze sheared away the tongue at its base. So he fell in the dust, and bit the cold bronze with his teeth.

And Eurypylus, son of Euaemon, slew noble Hypsenor, son of Dolopion high of heart, who had been made priest of Scamander, and was honored by the people like a god—at him rushed Eurypylus, Euaemon's glorious son, with his sword as he fled before him, and in mid-course he struck him on the shoulder and lopped off his heavy arm. So the arm all bloody fell to the ground; and down over his eyes came dark death and resistless fate.

Thus they toiled in the mighty combat; but of Tydeus' son you could not have told which army he was with, whether he sided with the Trojans or with the Achaeans. For he stormed across the plain like a winter torrent at the full which with its swift flood sweeps away the embankments; this the close-fenced embankments do not hold back, nor do the walls of the fruitful vineyards stay its sudden coming when the storm of Zeus drives it on; and before it in multitudes the fair works of men fall in ruin. Just so before Tydeus' son were the thick battalions of the Trojans driven in rout, nor did they stand their ground against him even though they were many.

But when the glorious son of Lycaon caught sight of him as he raged across the plain and drove the battalions in rout before him, immediately he bent against the son of Tydeus his curved bow, and with sure aim struck him as he rushed onwards on the right shoulder on the plate of his corselet; through this sped the bitter arrow and went clean through, and the corselet was spattered with blood. Over

- τῷ δ' ἐπὶ μακρὸν ἄνυσε Λυκάονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός·  
 “ὄρυνσθε, Τρῶες μεγάθυμοι, κέντορες ἵππων·  
 βέβληται γὰρ ἄριστος Ἀχαιῶν, οὐδέ ἔφημι  
 δῆθ' ἀνσχήσεσθαι κρατερὸν βέλος, εἰ ἐτεόν με  
 105 ὤρσεν ἄναξ Διὸς υἱὸς ἀπορνύμενον Λυκίηθεν.”  
 ὣς ἔφατ' εὐχόμενος· τὸν δ' οὐ βέλος ὠκὺ  
 δάμασσεν,  
 ἀλλ' ἀναχωρήσας πρόσθ' ἵπποιιν καὶ ὄχεσφιν  
 ἔστη, καὶ Σθένελον προσέφη, Καπανήιον υἱόν·  
 “ὄρσο, πέπον Καπανηιάδη, καταβήσαιο δίφρου,  
 110 ὄφρα μοι ἐξ ὤμοιο ἐρύσσης πικρὸν οἰστόν.”  
 ὣς ἄρ' ἔφη, Σθένελος δὲ καθ' ἵππων ἄλτο χαμάζε,  
 πὰρ δὲ στὰς βέλος ὠκὺ διαμπερὲς ἐξέρυσ' ὤμου·  
 αἶμα δ' ἀνηκόντιζε διὰ στρεπτοῖο χιτῶνος.  
 δῆ τότ' ἔπειτ' ἡρᾶτο βοῆν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
 115 “κλῦθί μεν, αἰγιόχοιο Διὸς τέκος, Ἀτρυτώνη,  
 εἴ ποτέ μοι καὶ πατρὶ φίλα φρονέουσα παρέστης  
 δηῖω ἐν πολέμῳ, νῦν αὖτ' ἐμὲ φίλαι, Ἀθήνη·  
 δὸς δέ τέ μ' ἄνδρα ἐλείν καὶ ἐς ὀρμὴν ἔγχεος ἐλθεῖν,  
 ὅς μ' ἔβαλε φθάμενος καὶ ἐπεύχεται, οὐδέ μέ φησι  
 120 δηρὸν ἔτ' ὄψεσθαι λαμπρὸν φάος ἡελίοιο.”  
 ὣς ἔφατ' εὐχόμενος· τοῦ δ' ἔκλυε Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη,  
 γυῖα δ' ἔθηκεν ἐλαφρά, πόδας καὶ χεῖρας ὑπερθεν·  
 ἀγχοῦ δ' ἰσταμένη ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “θαρσῶν νῦν, Διόμηδες, ἐπὶ Τρῳέεσσι μάχεσθαι·  
 125 ἐν γάρ τοι στήθεσσι μένος πατρώιον ἦκα  
 ἄτρομον, οἶον ἔχεσκε σακέσπαλος ἵππότης Τυδεύς·  
 ἀχλὺν δ' αὖ τοι ἀπ' ὀφθαλμῶν ἔλον, ἥ πρὶν ἐπῆεν,

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him then shouted aloud the glorious son of Lycaon: "Rouse yourselves, great-hearted Trojans, you goaders of horses. Struck is the best man of the Achaeans, and I say he will not for long endure the mighty arrow, if in truth the lord Apollo, the son of Zeus, sped me on my way when I set out from Lycia."

So he spoke boastfully; but him the swift arrow did not lay low, but he drew back, and stood in front of his horses and chariot, and spoke to Sthenelus, son of Capaneus: "Rouse yourself, good son of Capaneus; get down from the chariot, so that you may draw out from my shoulder the bitter arrow."

So he spoke, and Sthenelus leapt from his chariot to the ground, and stood beside him, and drew out the swift arrow clean through his shoulder; and the blood spurted up through the pliant tunic. And then Diomedes, good at the war cry, made prayer: "Hear me, child of Zeus who bears the aegis, Atrytone! If ever with kindly thought you stood by my father's side in the fury of battle, so now again show your love to me, Athene. Grant that I may slay this man, and that he come within the cast of my spear, the man who has struck me unawares, and boasts over me, and declares that not for long shall I look on the bright light of the sun."

So he spoke in prayer, and Pallas Athene heard him, and made his limbs light, his feet and his hands above; and she came up to his side and spoke to him winged words: "Take heart now, Diomedes, and fight against the Trojans, for in your breast have I put the force of your father, the unflinching force, such as the horseman Tydeus had, the wielder of the shield. And the mist moreover have I taken from your eyes that was over them before, so that you may

ὄφρ' εὖ γιγνώσκης ἡμὲν θεὸν ἥδ' καὶ ἄνδρα.<sup>5</sup>  
 τῷ νῦν αἶ κε θεὸς πειρώμενος ἐνθάδ' ἵκηται,

- 130 μὴ τι σύ γ' ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖς ἀντικρὺ μάχεσθαι  
 τοῖς ἄλλοις· ἀτὰρ εἰ κε Διὸς θυγάτηρ Ἀφροδίτη  
 ἔλθῃσ' ἐς πόλεμον, τήν γ' οὐτάμεν ὀξεί χαλκῶ.”

- Ἦ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς εἰποῦσ' ἀπέβη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,  
 Τυδείδης δ' ἐξαῦτις ἰὼν προμάχοισιν ἐμίχθη·  
 135 καὶ πρὶν περ θυμῷ μεμαῶς Τρώεσσι μάχεσθαι,  
 δὴ τότε μιν τρὶς τόσσον ἔλεν μένος, ὥς τε λέοντα,  
 ὃν ῥά τε ποιμὴν ἀγρῷ ἐπ' εἰροπόκοις οἴεσσι  
 χραύσῃ μὲν τ' αὐλῆς ὑπεράλμενον οὐδὲ δαμάσσῃ·  
 τοῦ μὲν τε σθένος ὤρσεν, ἔπειτα δέ τ' οὐ προσαμύνει,  
 140 ἀλλὰ κατὰ σταθμοὺς δύεται, τὰ δ' ἐρήμα φοβεῖται·  
 αἱ μὲν τ' ἀγχιστῖναι ἐπ' ἀλλήλησι κέχυνται,  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ ἐμμεμαῶς βαθέης ἐξάλλεται αὐλῆς·  
 ὥς μεμαῶς Τρώεσσι μίγῃ κρατερὸς Διομήδης.

- Ἐνθ' ἔλεν Ἀστυνόον καὶ Ὑπείρονα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
 145 τὸν μὲν ὑπὲρ μαζοῖο βαλὼν χαλκῆρεϊ δουρί,  
 τὸν δ' ἕτερον ξίφεϊ μεγάλῳ κληῖδα παρ' ὦμον  
 πληῆξ', ἀπὸ δ' αὐχένος ὦμον ἐέργαθεν ἥδ' ἀπὸ νώτου.  
 τοὺς μὲν ἔασ', ὁ δ' Ἄβαντα μετώχετο καὶ Πολύιδον,  
 υἱέας Εὐρυδάμαντος, ὀνειροπόλοιο γέροντος·  
 150 τοῖς οὐκ ἐρχομένοις ὁ γέρων ἐκρίνατ' ὀνείρους,  
 ἀλλὰ σφεας κρατερὸς Διομήδης ἐξενάριξε·  
 βῆ δὲ μετὰ Ξάνθον τε Θόωνά τε, Φαίνοπος υἱε,  
 ἄμφω τηλυγέτω· ὁ δὲ τείρετο γῆραϊ λυγρῷ,

<sup>5</sup> ἥδ' καὶ ἄνδρα: ἥδ' ἄνθρωπον Zenodotus.



## BOOK 5

well discern both god and man. So now if any god comes here to make trial of you, in no way fight face to face with any other immortal gods, save only if Aphrodite, daughter of Zeus, shall enter the battle: her you may wound with a thrust of the sharp sword."

So spoke the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, and went away, and the son of Tydeus returned again and mingled with the foremost fighters; and though his heart had been eager to do battle with the Trojans before, now force three times as great took hold of him, just as it does a lion that a shepherd in the field, guarding his fleecy sheep, has grazed as it leapt over the wall of the sheepfold, but has not vanquished; its might he has roused, but then he defends no more, but slinks among the farm buildings, and the flock all unprotected is driven in rout, and the sheep are strewn in heaps, hard by one another, but the lion in fury leaps out from the high fold; in such fury did mighty Diomedes mix with the Trojans.

Then he slew Astynous and Hypeiron, shepherd of men; the one he struck above the nipple with a cast of his bronze-tipped spear, and the other he struck with his great sword on the collarbone beside the shoulder, and sheared off the shoulder from the neck and from the back. These he left, but he went in pursuit of Abas and Polyidus, sons of old Eurydamas, the reader of dreams; they came not back for the old man to interpret dreams for them, but mighty Diomedes slew them. Then he went after Xanthus and Thoön, the two sons of Phaenops, and both well beloved; and their father was worn out with grievous old age, and

155 υἷον δ' οὐ τέκετ' ἄλλον ἐπὶ κτεάτεσσι λιπέσθαι.  
 ἔνθ' ὃ γε τοὺς ἐνάριζε, φίλον δ' ἐξαίνυντο θυμὸν  
 ἀμφοτέρω, πατέρι δὲ γόον καὶ κήδεα λυγρὰ  
 λείπ', ἐπεὶ οὐ ζῶοντε μάχης ἐκ νοστήσαντε  
 δέξατο· χηρωσταὶ δὲ διὰ κτῆσιν δατέοντο.

Ἐνθ' υἱας Πριάμοιο δύνω λάβε Δαρδανίδαο  
 160 εἰν ἐνὶ δίφρῳ ἐόντας, Ἐχέμμονά τε Χρομίον τε.  
 ὥς δὲ λέων ἐν βουσὶ θορῶν ἐξ αὐχένα ἄξῃ  
 πόρτιος<sup>6</sup> ἢ βοός, ξύλοχον κάτα βοσκομενάων,  
 ὥς τοὺς ἀμφοτέρους ἐξ ἵππων Τυδέος υἱὸς  
 βῆσε κακῶς ἀέκοντας, ἔπειτα δὲ τεύχε' ἐσύλα·  
 165 ἵππους δ' οἷς ἐτάροισι δίδου μετὰ νῆας ἐλαύνειν.

Τὸν δ' ἶδεν Αἰνείας ἀλαπάζοντα στίχας ἀνδρῶν,  
 βῆ δ' ἵμεν ἄν τε μάχην καὶ ἀνὰ κλόνον ἐγχειάων  
 Πάνδαρον ἀντίθεον διζήμενος, εἴ που ἐφεύροι·  
 εὔρε Λυκάονος υἷον ἀμύμονά τε κρατερόν τε,  
 170 στή δὲ πρόσθ' αὐτοῖο ἔπος τέ μιν ἀντίον ἠΐδα·  
 “Πάνδαρε, ποῦ τοι τόξον ἰδὲ πτερόεντες οἰστοὶ  
 καὶ κλέος; ᾧ οὐ τίς τοι ἐρίζεται ἐνθάδε γ' ἀνὴρ,  
 οὐδέ τις ἐν Λυκίῃ σέο γ' εὐχεται εἶναι ἀμείνων.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε τῷδ' ἔφες ἀνδρὶ βέλος, Διὶ χεῖρας ἀνασχών,  
 175 ὅς τις ὅδε κρατέει καὶ δὴ κακὰ πολλὰ ἔοργε  
 Τρῶας, ἐπεὶ πολλῶν τε καὶ ἐσθλῶν γούνατ' ἔλυσεν·  
 εἰ μὴ τις θεὸς ἐστι κοτεσσάμενος Τρώεσσιν  
 ἱρῶν μηνίσας· χαλεπὴ δὲ θεοῦ ἐπὶ μῆνις.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Λυκάονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός·

<sup>6</sup> πόρτιος: βουκόλου Zenodotus.

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begot no other son to leave in charge of his possessions. There Diomedes slew them, and deprived them of dear life, both of them; and for the father he left lamentation and grievous sorrow, since they did not live for him to greet them on their return; and the next of kin divided his goods.

Then he took two sons of Priam, Dardanus' son, Echemmon and Chromius, the two being in one chariot. Just as a lion leaps among the cattle and breaks the neck of a heifer or a cow as they graze in a woodland pasture, so did Tydeus' son cause them to dismount from their chariot, harshly and against their will, and then stripped them of their armor; and the horses he gave to his comrades to drive to the ships.

And Aeneas saw him as he made havoc of the ranks of warriors, and set out to go along the battle and amid the hurtling of the spears seeking out godlike Pandarus, in the hope of finding him somewhere. He found the son of Lycaon, incomparable and mighty, and stood before him, and spoke to him, saying: "Pandarus, where are your bow and your winged arrows, and your fame? In archery no man of this land can contend with you, nor can any in Lycia declare himself to be better than you. Come now, lift up your hands in prayer to Zeus, and let fly a shaft at this man, whoever he is that so prevails and has done the Trojans much harm, since he has loosed the knees of many noble men; unless indeed he is some god who is resentful of the Trojans, angered because of sacrifices; painful is the weight of the wrath of a god on men."

To him then spoke the glorious son of Lycaon: "Aeneas,

- 180 “Αἰνεία, Τρώων βουληφόρε χαλκοχιτώνων,  
 Τυδεΐδῃ μιν ἔγωγε δαΐφρονι πάντα εἴσκω,  
 ἀσπίδι γιγνώσκων αὐλώπιδί τε τρυφαλείῃ,  
 ἵππους τ’ εἰσορόων· σάφα δ’ οὐκ οἶδ’ εἰ θεός ἐστιν.<sup>7</sup>  
 εἰ δ’ ὅ γ’ ἀνὴρ ὃν φημι, δαΐφρων Τυδέος υἱός,  
 185 οὐχ ὅ γ’ ἄνευθε θεοῦ τάδε μαίνεται, ἀλλὰ τις ἄγχι  
 ἔστηκ’ ἀθανάτων, νεφέλῃ εἰλυμένος ὦμους,  
 ὃς τούτου βέλος ὦκν’ κικλήμενον ἔτραπεν ἄλλῃ.<sup>8</sup>  
 ἦδη γάρ οἱ ἐφῆκα βέλος, καί μιν βάλον ὦμον  
 δεξιὸν ἀντικρὺ διὰ θώρηκος γυάλοιο·  
 190 καί μιν ἔγωγ’ ἐφάμην Ἀἰδωνῇ προϊάψειν,  
 ἔμψης δ’ οὐκ ἐδάμασσα· θεός νύ τίς ἐστι κοτήεις.  
 ἵπποι δ’ οὐ παρέασιν καὶ ἄρματα, τῶν κ’ ἐπιβαίην·  
 ἀλλὰ που ἐν μεγάροισι Λυκάονος ἔνδεκα δίφροι  
 καλοὶ πρωτοπαγεῖς νεοτευχές· ἀμφὶ δὲ πέπλοι  
 195 πέπτανται· παρὰ δέ σφιν ἐκάστω δίζυγες ἵπποι  
 ἐστᾶσι κρὶ λευκὸν ἐρεπτόμενοι καὶ ὀλύρας.  
 ἦ μὲν μοι μάλα πολλὰ γέρων αἰχμητὰ Λυκάων  
 ἐρχομένῳ ἐπέτελλε δόμοις ἔνι ποιητοῖσιν·  
 ἵπποισιν μ’ ἐκέλευε καὶ ἄρμασιν ἐμβεβαῶτα  
 200 ἀρχεύειν Τρώεσσι κατὰ κρατερὰς ὑσμίνας·  
 ἀλλ’ ἐγὼ οὐ πιθόμην—ἦ τ’ ἂν πολὺ κέρδιον ἦεν—  
 ἵππων φειδόμενος, μή μοι δευοίατο φορβῆς  
 ἀνδρῶν εἰλομένων, εἰωθότες ἔδμεναι ἄδην.  
 ὥς λίπον, αὐτὰρ πεζὸς ἐς Ἴλιον εἰλήλουθα  
 205 τόξοισιν πίσυνος· τὰ δέ μ’ οὐκ ἄρ’ ἔμελλον ὀνήσειν.  
 ἦδη γὰρ δοιοῖσιν ἀριστήεσσιν ἐφῆκα,  
 Τυδεΐῃ τε καὶ Ἀτρεΐδῃ, ἐκ δ’ ἀμφοτέρουιν

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counselor of the bronze-clad Trojans, to the battle-minded son of Tydeus do I liken him in all things, knowing him by his shield and his crested helmet, and when I look on his horses; yet I know not for sure whether he is a god. But if he is a man, the one I say, the battle-minded son of Tydeus, not without the aid of some god does he rage in this way, but one of the immortals, his shoulders wrapped in cloud, stands close by him, and has turned aside from him my swift shaft just as it reached him. For just now I let fly a shaft at him, and I struck him on the right shoulder clean through the plate of his corselet; and I said that I should send him off to Aïdoneus, yet I subdued him not; surely some god is angry. And horses have I not at hand, nor a chariot on which I might mount—yet in Lycaon's halls, I think, there are eleven fair chariots, new-made, new-furnished, with cloths spread over them; and by each stands its pair of horses feeding on white barley and spelt. In fact, as I was leaving the old spearman Lycaon strictly charged me in our well-built house: he ordered me to mount on horse and chariot, and lead the Trojans in mighty combats. But I did not listen, not I—surely it would have been far better!—but I spared the horses lest in the multitude of men they should lack fodder, they that were used to eat their fill. So I left them, and have come on foot to Ilios, trusting in my bow; but this, it would appear, was not to benefit me. Already I have let fly a shaft at two chief men, the son of Tydeus and Atreus' son, and struck them

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<sup>7</sup> Line 183 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>8</sup> Line 187 was rejected by Zenodotus.

- ἀτρεκές αἶμ' ἔσσενα βαλὼν, ἥγαιρα δὲ μᾶλλον.  
 τῷ ῥα κακῇ αἴσῃ ἀπὸ πασσάλου ἀγκύλα τόξα  
 210 ἥματι τῷ ἐλόμην ὅτε Ἴλιον εἰς ἐρατεινὴν  
 ἡγεόμην Τρώεσσι, φέρων χάριν Ἑκτορι δῖω.  
 εἰ δέ κε νοστήσω καὶ ἐσόψομαι ὀφθαλμοῖσι  
 πατρίδ' ἐμὴν ἄλοχόν τε καὶ ὑπερεφές μέγα δῶμα,  
 αὐτίκ' ἔπειτ' ἀπ' ἐμεῖο κάρη τάμοι ἀλλότριος φῶς,  
 215 εἰ μὴ ἐγὼ τάδε τόξα φαεινῷ ἐν πυρὶ θείην  
 χερσὶ διακλάσσας· ἀνεμῶλια γάρ μοι ὀπηδεῖ.”  
 Τὸν δ' αὖτ' Αἰνείας Τρώων ἀγὸς ἀντίον ἦνδα·  
 “μὴ δὴ οὕτως ἀγόρευε· πάρος δ' οὐκ ἔσσεται ἄλλως,  
 πρίν γ' ἐπὶ νῶ τῷδ' ἀνδρὶ σὺν ἵπποισιν καὶ ὄχεσφιν  
 220 ἀντιβίην ἐλθόντε σὺν ἔντεσι πειρηθῆναι.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγ' ἐμῶν ὀχέων ἐπιβήσαιο, ὄφρα ἴδῃαι  
 οἷοι Τρῳῆοι ἵπποι, ἐπιστάμενοι πεδίοιο  
 κραιπνὰ μάλ' ἐνθα καὶ ἐνθα διωκέμεν ἡδὲ φέβεσθαι·  
 τῷ καὶ νῶι πόλινδε σαώσεται, εἴ περ ἂν αὖτε  
 225 Ζεὺς ἐπὶ Τυδεΐδῃ Διομήδεϊ κῦδος ὀρέξῃ.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν μᾶστιγα καὶ ἡνία σιγαλόεντα  
 δέξαι, ἐγὼ δ' ἵππων ἀποβήσομαι,<sup>9</sup> ὄφρα μάχωμαι·  
 ἡὲ σὺ τόνδε δέδεξο, μελήσουσιν δ' ἐμοὶ ἵπποι.”  
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Λυκάονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός·  
 230 “Αἰνεία, σὺ μὲν αὐτὸς ἔχ' ἡνία καὶ τεῶ ἵππῳ·  
 μᾶλλον ὑφ' ἡνιόχῳ εἰωθότι καμπύλον ἄρμα  
 οἴσεται, εἴ περ ἂν αὖτε φεβώμεθα Τυδέος υἱόν·  
 μὴ τῷ μὲν δείσαντε ματήσεται, οὐδ' ἐθέλητον  
 ἐκφερέμεν πολέμοιο, τεὸν φθόγγον ποθέοντε,  
 235 νῶι δ' ἐπαΐξας μεγαθύμου Τυδέος υἱὸς

unerringly, and from them both I drew blood, yet I only roused them the more. So it was with an evil fate that I took from the peg my curved bow on that day when I led my Trojans to lovely Ilios as a favor to glorious Hector. But if I return home and look with my eyes on my native land and my wife and great, high-roofed halls, then may some stranger immediately cut my head from my neck, if I do not myself break this bow with my hands and place it in the blazing fire; for worthless as wind does it serve me."

To him then spoke in answer Aeneas, leader of the Trojans: "Do not speak that way; things will not be any better until we two with horses and chariot go to face this man and make trial of him in arms. But come, mount my chariot, so that you may see of what sort are the horses of Tros, well skilled to course swiftly here and there over the plain whether in pursuit or in flight. They will bring the two of us safely to the city, if again Zeus grants glory to Tydeus' son Diomedes. Come, therefore, take now the whip and the shining reins, and I will dismount to fight; or else you await this man's approach, and I will look to the horses."

Then made answer to him the glorious son of Lycaon: "Aeneas, keep the reins yourself, and drive your own horses; better will they draw the curved chariot under their accustomed charioteer, if we must flee from the son of Tydeus. I would not have them take fright and run wild, and for want of your voice be not minded to carry us out of the battle, and the son of great-hearted Tydeus leap on us

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<sup>9</sup> ἀποβήσομαι: ἐπιβήσομαι Zenodotus.

αὐτὼ τε κτεῖνῃ καὶ ἐλάσσει μώνυχας ἵππους.  
ἀλλὰ σύ γ' αὐτὸς ἔλαυνε τέ' ἄρματα καὶ τεῶ ἵππῳ,  
τόνδε δ' ἐγὼν ἐπιόντα δεδέξομαι ὅξεί δουρί."

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσαντες, ἐς ἄρματα ποικίλα βάντες,  
240 ἐμμεμαῶτ' ἐπὶ Τυδεΐδῃ ἔχον ὠκέας ἵππους.  
τοὺς δὲ ἶδε Σθένελος, Καπαηνῆιος ἀγλαὸς υἱός,  
αἶψα δὲ Τυδεΐδην ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
"Τυδεΐδῃ Διόμηδες, ἐμῷ κεχαρισμένε θυμῷ,  
ἄνδρ' ὀρόω κρατερὴν ἐπὶ σοὶ μεμαῶτε μάχεσθαι,  
245 ἵν' ἀπέλεθρον ἔχοντας· ὁ μὲν τόξων ἐν εἰδώς,  
Πάνδαρος, υἱὸς δ' αὖτε Λυκάονος εὐχεται εἶναι.  
Αἰνείας δ' υἱὸς μὲν ἀμύμονος<sup>10</sup> Ἀγχίσαιο  
εὐχεται ἐκγεγάμεν, μήτηρ δέ οἱ ἔστ' Ἀφροδίτη.  
ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ χαζώμεθ' ἐφ' ἵππων, μηδέ μοι οὕτω<sup>11</sup>  
250 θῦνε διὰ προμάχων, μή πως φίλον ἦτορ ὀλέσσης."  
Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη κρατερὸς Διο-  
μήδης·

"μή τι φόβονδ' ἀγόρευ', ἐπεὶ οὐδέ σε πεισέμεν οἶω.  
οὐ γάρ μοι γενναῖον ἀλυσκάζοντι μάχεσθαι  
οὐδὲ καταπτῶσσειν· ἔτι μοι μένος ἔμπεδόν ἐστιν·  
255 ὀκνεῖω δ' ἵππων ἐπιβαινέμεν, ἀλλὰ καὶ αὐτῶς  
ἀντίον εἶμ' αὐτῶν· τρεῖν μ' οὐκ ἔῃ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη.  
τούτῳ δ' οὐ πάλιν αὖτις ἀποίσετον ὠκέες ἵπποι  
ἄμφω ἀφ' ἡμείων, εἴ γ' οὖν ἕτερός γε φύγησιν.  
ἄλλο δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσιν·  
260 αἶ κέν μοι πολύβουλος Ἀθήνη κῦδος ὀρέξῃ  
ἀμφοτέρῳ κτεῖναι, σὺ δὲ τούσδε μὲν ὠκέας ἵππους  
αὐτοῦ ἐρυκακέειν ἐξ ἄντυγος ἡνία τείνας,



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and slay the two of us, and drive off the single-hoofed horses. But you yourself drive your own chariot and your own horses, and I will receive this man's approach with my sharp spear."

So saying they mounted the inlaid chariot and eagerly drove the swift horses against the son of Tydeus. And Sthenelus, the glorious son of Capaneus, saw them and immediately spoke to Tydeus' son winged words: "Diomedes, son of Tydeus, dear to my heart, I see two mighty warriors eager to fight against you, endowed with measureless strength. The one is well skilled with the bow, Pandarus, and moreover boasts that he is the son of Lycaon; while Aeneas boasts that he was born of incomparable Anchises, and his mother is Aphrodite. But come, let us give ground in our chariot, and do not rage in this way, I pray you, among the foremost fighters, lest you perhaps lose your life."

Then with an angry glance mighty Diomedes addressed him: "Do not speak to me of flight, for I think you will not persuade me. Not in my blood is it to fight a skulking fight or to cower down; still is my strength firm. And I have no intention of mounting a chariot, but just as I am I will go to face them; that I should quake Pallas Athene does not allow. As for these two, their swift horses will not carry both back from us again, even if one or the other escape. And another thing will I tell you, and do you lay it to heart. If Athene, rich in counsel, grants me the glory to slay them both, then you hold here these swift horses, binding the reins taut to the chariot rim; but remember to rush at

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<sup>10</sup> μὲν ἀμύμονος: μεγάλητορος.

<sup>11</sup> Lines 249 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.

- Αἰνείας δ' ἐπαΐξαι μεμνημένος ἵππων,  
 ἐκ δ' ἐλάσαι Τρώων μετ' ἐυκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς.  
 265 τῆς γάρ τοι γενεῆς, ἧς Τρώϊ περ εὐρύοπα Ζεὺς  
 δῶχ' υἱὸς ποινὴν Γανυμήδεος, οὐνεκ' ἄριστοι  
 ἵππων, ὅσσοι ἔασιν ὑπ' ἡῶ τ' ἡέλιόν τε.  
 τῆς γενεῆς ἔκλειψεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγχίσης,  
 λάθρη Λαομέδοντος ὑποσχὼν θήλεας ἵππους.  
 270 τῶν οἱ ἐξ ἐγένοντο ἐνὶ μεγάροισι γενέθλη.  
 τοὺς μὲν τέσσαρας αὐτὸς ἔχων ἀτίταλλ' ἐπὶ φάτνῃ,  
 τῶ δὲ δὺ' Αἰνείας δῶκεν, μήστωρ<sup>12</sup> φόβοιο.  
 εἰ τούτῳ κε λάβοιμεν, ἀροίμεθά κε κλέον ἐσθλόν."  
 Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,  
 275 τῶ δὲ τάχ' ἐγγύθεν ἦλθον ἐλαύνοντ' ὠκέας ἵππους.  
 τὸν πρότερος προσέειπε Λυκάονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός·  
 "καρτερόθυμε, δαΐφρον, ἀγανοῦ Τυδέος υἱέ,  
 ἦ μάλα σ' οὐ βέλος ὠκὺ δαμάσσατο, πικρὸς οἰστός·  
 νῦν αὖτ' ἐγχείῃ πειρήσομαι, αἶ κε τύχωμι."  
 280 Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἀμπεπαλὼν προΐει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος  
 καὶ βάλε Τυδεΐδαο κατ' ἀσπίδα· τῆς δὲ διαπρὸ  
 αἰχμῇ χαλκείῃ πταμένη θώρηκι πελάσθη·  
 τῷ δ' ἐπὶ μακρὸν ἄυσε Λυκάονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός·  
 "βέβληται κενεῶνα διαμπερές, οὐδέ σ' οἶω  
 285 δηρὸν ἔτ' ἀνσχήσεσθαι· ἐμοὶ δὲ μέγ' εὖχος ἔδωκας."  
 Τὸν δ' οὐ ταρβήσας προσέφη κρατερὸς Διομήδης·  
 "ἥμβροτες οὐδ' ἔτυχες· ἀτὰρ οὐ μὲν σφῶί γ' οἶω  
 πρίν γ' ἀποπαύσεσθαι, πρίν γ' ἢ ἕτερόν γε πεσόντα  
 αἵματος ἄσαι Ἄρηα, ταλαύρινον πολεμιστήν."

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the horses of Aeneas and drive them away from the Trojans to the well-greaved Achaeans. For they are of that stock from which Zeus, whose voice resounds afar, gave to Tros as recompense for his son Ganymedes, because they were the best of all horses that are beneath the dawn and the sun. From this stock the lord of men Anchises stole, putting his mares to them while Laomedon knew nothing of it. And from these, six were born to him in his halls; four he kept himself and reared at the stall, and to Aeneas he gave the other two, devisers of rout. If we could take these two, we should win glorious renown."

Thus they spoke to one another, and immediately came up those other two, driving the swift horses. And Lycaon's glorious son spoke first to him, saying: "Son of lordly Tydeus, of mighty heart and battle-minded, it is true my swift shaft did not subdue you, the bitter arrow; now will I again make trial of you with my spear, if I can hit you."

So saying, he poised and hurled his far-shadowing spear, and struck the shield of Tydeus' son; and straight through it sped the point of bronze and reached the corselet. Then over him shouted aloud the glorious son of Lycaon: "You are struck clean through to the belly, and not for long, I think, will you endure; but to me you have granted great glory."

Then with no touch of fear spoke to him mighty Diomedes: "You have missed and not hit; but you two, I think, will not rest till one or the other of you has fallen and glutted with his blood Ares, the warrior with tough shield of hide."

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<sup>12</sup> μήστωρε: μήστωρι.

- 290 ὧς φάμενος προέηκε· βέλος δ' ἵθυνεν Ἀθήνη  
 ῥίνα παρ' ὀφθαλμόν, λευκοὺς δ' ἐπέρησεν ὀδόντας.  
 τοῦ δ' ἀπὸ μὲν γλῶσσαν πρυμνὴν τάμε χαλκὸς  
 ἀτειρής,  
 αἰχμὴ δ' ἐξελύθη<sup>13</sup> παρὰ νείατον ἀνθρεῶνα·  
 ἥριπε δ' ἐξ ὀχέων, ἀράβησε δὲ τεύχε' ἐπ' αὐτῷ  
 295 αἰόλα παμφανόωντα, παρέτρεσσαν δέ οἱ ἵπποι  
 ὠκύποδες· τοῦ δ' αὖθι λύθη ψυχὴ τε μένος τε.  
 Αἰνείας δ' ἀπόρουσε σὺν ἀσπίδι δουρί τε μακρῷ,  
 δείσας μὴ πῶς οἱ ἐρυσαιάτο νεκρὸν Ἀχαιοί.  
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' αὐτῷ βαῖνε λέων ὥς ἀλκὶ πεποιθώς,  
 300 πρόσθε δέ οἱ δόρυ τ' ἔσχε καὶ ἀσπίδα πάντοσ' εἴσῃν,  
 τὸν κτάμεναι μεμαῶς ὅς τις τοῦ γ' ἀντίος ἔλθοι,  
 σμερδαλέα ἰάχων· ὁ δὲ χερμάδιον λάβε χειρὶ  
 Τυδεΐδης, μέγα ἔργον, ὃ οὐ δύο γ' ἄνδρε φέροιεν,  
 οἷοι νῦν βροτοὶ εἰς· ὁ δέ μιν ῥέα πάλλε καὶ οἶος.  
 305 τῷ βάλεν Αἰνείας κατ' ἰσχίον, ἔνθα τε μηρὸς  
 ἰσχύϊ ἐνστρέφεται, κοτύλην δέ τέ μιν καλέουσι·  
 θλάσσε δέ οἱ κοτύλην, πρὸς δ' ἄμφω ῥῆξε τένοντε·  
 ὦσε δ' ἀπὸ ῥινὸν τρηχὺς λίθος. αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ἥρως  
 ἔστη γυνῆς ἐριπὼν καὶ ἐρείσατο χειρὶ παχείῃ  
 310 γαίης· ἀμφὶ δὲ ὅσσε κελαινὴ νῆξ ἐκάλυψε.  
 Καί νύ κεν ἔνθ' ἀπόλοιτο ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Αἰνείας,  
 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' ὁξὺ νόησε Διὸς θυγάτηρ Ἀφροδίτη,  
 μήτηρ, ἣ μιν ὑπ' Ἀγχίσῃ τέκε βουκολέοντι·  
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἐὼν φίλον υἱὸν ἐχεύατο πῆχες λευκῷ,  
 315 πρόσθε δέ οἱ πέπλοιο φαεινοῦ πτύγμ' ἐκάλυψεν,  
 ἔρκος ἔμεν βελέων, μὴ τις Δαναῶν ταχυπώλων

## BOOK 5

So he spoke and hurled; and Athene guided the spear to his nose beside the eye, and it pierced through his white teeth. So the stubborn bronze sheared off his tongue at its root, and the spear-point came out by the base of the chin. Then he fell from the chariot, and over him his armor clanged, all bright and flashing, and the swift-footed horses swerved aside; and there his spirit and his force were loosed.

But Aeneas leapt down with shield and long spear, seized with fear lest perhaps the Achaeans might drag the dead man from him. Over him he strode like a lion confident in his strength, and in front of him he held his spear and his shield that was well balanced on every side, eager to slay the man who should come to seize the corpse, and crying a terrible cry. But the son of Tydeus grasped in his hand a stone—a great deed—one that not two men could carry, such as mortals now are; yet easily did he wield it even alone. With this he struck Aeneas on the hip, where the thigh turns in the hip joint—the cup, men call it—and crushed the cup, and in addition broke both sinews, and the jagged stone tore the skin away. Then the warrior fell on his knees and remained there, and with his stout hand he leaned on the earth; and dark night enfolded his eyes.

And now would the lord of men, Aeneas, have perished, had not the daughter of Zeus, Aphrodite, been quick to notice, his mother, who conceived him to Anchises as he tended his cattle. About her dear son she flung her white arms, and in front of him she spread a fold of her bright garment to be a shelter against missiles, lest any of the

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<sup>13</sup> ἐξελύθη Aristarchus: ἐξεσύθη Zenodotus.

χαλκὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι βαλὼν ἐκ θυμὸν ἔλοιτο.

Ἦ μὲν ἔον φίλον υἱὸν ὑπεξέφερεν πολέμοιο·  
οὐδ' υἱὸς Καπανῆος ἐλήθετο συνθεσιῶν

- 320 τάων ἅς ἐπέτελλε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης,  
ἀλλ' ὃ γε τοὺς μὲν εἴους ἡρύκακε μώνυχας ἵππους  
νόσφιν ἀπὸ φλοίσβου, ἐξ ἄντυγος ἡνία τείνας,  
Αἰνείαιο δ' ἐπαΐξας καλλίτριχας ἵππους  
ἐξέλασε Τρώων μετ' ἐυκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
325 δῶκε δὲ Δηϊπύλῳ, ἐτάρῳ φίλῳ, ὃν περὶ πάσης  
τίεν ὁμηλικίης, ὅτι οἱ φρεσὶν ἄρτια ᾗδῃ,  
νηυσὶν ἔπι γλαφυρῇσιν ἐλαυνέμεν. αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ἥρως  
ὦν ἵππων ἐπιβὰς ἔλαβ' ἡνία σιγαλόεντα,  
αἶψα δὲ Τυδεΐδην μέθεπε κρατερώνυχας ἵππους  
330 ἐμμεμαῶς. ὁ δὲ Κύπριν ἐπώχετο νηλεί χαλκῷ,  
γιγνώσκων ὃ τ' ἀναλκίς ἔην θεός, οὐδὲ θεάων  
τάων αἶ τ' ἀνδρῶν πόλεμον κάτα κοιρανέουσιν,  
οὐτ' ἄρ' Ἀθηναίῃ οὔτε πτολίπορθος Ἐννῶ.  
ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἐκίχανε πολλὸν καθ' ὄμιλον ὀπάζων,  
335 ἔνθ' ἐπορεξάμενος μεγαθύμου Τυδέος υἱὸς  
ἄκρην οὔτασε χεῖρα μετάλμενος ὀξεί δουρὶ  
ἀβληχρήν· εἶθαρ δὲ δόρυ χροὸς ἀντετόρησεν  
ἀμβροσίου διὰ πέπλον, ὃν οἱ Χάριτες κάμον αὐταί,  
πρυμνὸν ὕπερ θέναρος· ῥέε δ' ἄμβροτον αἶμα θεοῖο,  
340 ἰχώρ, οἷός περ τε ῥέει μακάρεσσι θεοῖσιν·  
οὐ γὰρ σῖτον ἔδουσ', οὐ πίνουσ' αἶθοπα οἶνον,  
τοῦνεκ' ἀναίμονές εἰσι καὶ ἀθάνατοι καλέονται.  
ἦ δὲ μέγα ἰάχουσα ἀπὸ ἔο κάββαλεν νιόν·  
καὶ τὸν μὲν μετὰ χερσὶν ἐρύσατο Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων

## BOOK 5

Danaans with swift horses might hurl a spear of bronze into his chest and take away his life.

She then was carrying her dear son out from the battle; but the son of Capaneus forgot not the commands that Diomedes good at the war cry had laid on him. He held his own single-hoofed horses away from the turmoil, binding the reins taut to the chariot rim, but rushed at the fair-maned horses of Aeneas, and drove them away from the Trojans to the well-greaved Achaeans, and gave them to Deïpylus his dear comrade, whom he honored above all the companions of his youth, because he was like-minded with himself; him he told to drive them to the hollow ships. Then did the warrior mount his own chariot and take the bright reins, and immediately drive his stout-hoofed horses in eager quest of Tydeus' son. But he had gone in pursuit of Cypris with his pitiless bronze, knowing that she was a weakling goddess, and not one of those goddesses who lord it in the battle of warriors—no Athene she, nor Enyo, sacker of cities. But when he caught up with her as he pursued her through the great throng, then the son of great-hearted Tydeus thrust with his sharp spear and leapt at her, and cut the surface of her delicate hand, and immediately through the ambrosial raiment, which the Graces themselves had toiled over making for her, the spear pierced the flesh on the wrist above the palm, and out flowed the immortal blood of the goddess, the ichor, such as flows in the blessed gods; for they eat not bread nor do they drink ruddy wine, and so they are bloodless, and are called immortals. She then with a loud cry let fall her son, and Phoebus Apollo took him in his arms and

- 345 κυανέη νεφέλη, μή τις Δαναῶν ταχυπώλων  
 χαλκὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι βαλὼν ἐκ θυμὸν ἔλοιτο·  
 τῇ δ' ἐπὶ μακρὸν ἄνσε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
 “εἶκε, Διὸς θύγατερ, πολέμου καὶ δημοτῆτος·  
 ἦ οὐχ ἄλις ὅττι γυναιῖκας ἀνάλκιδας ἡπεροπεύεις;  
 350 εἰ δὲ σύ γ' ἐς πόλεμον πωλήσεται, ἦ τέ σ' οἶω  
 ῥιγήσειν πόλεμόν γε καὶ εἴ χ' ἐτέρωθι πύθηαι.”  
 ὣς ἔφαθ', ἡ δ' ἀλύουσ' ἀπεβήσετο, τείρετο δ'  
 αἰνῶς·  
 τὴν μὲν ἄρ' Ἴρις ἐλοῦσα ποδῆνεμος ἕξαγ' ὁμίλου  
 ἀχθομένην ὀδύνησι, μελαίνετο δὲ χροά καλόν.  
 355 εὗρεν ἔπειτα μάχης ἐπ' ἀριστερὰ θούρον Ἄρῃα  
 ἦμενον, ἥερι δ' ἔγχος ἐκέκλιτο καὶ ταχέ' ἵππῳ.  
 ἡ δὲ γυνὴ ἐριποῦσα κασιγνήτοιο φίλοιο  
 πολλὰ λισσομένη χρυσάμπυκας ἤτεεν ἵππους·  
 “φίλε κασίγνητε, κόμισαί τέ με δὸς δέ μοι ἵππους,  
 360 ὄφρ' ἐς Ὀλυμπον ἵκωμαι, ἵν' ἀθανάτων ἔδος ἐστί.  
 λήν ἄχθομαι ἔλκος, ὃ με βροτὸς οὔτασεν ἀνὴρ,  
 Τυδείδης, ὃς νῦν γε καὶ ἂν Διὶ πατρὶ μάχοιτο.”  
 ὣς φάτο, τῇ δ' ἄρ' Ἄρης δῶκε χρυσάμπυκας  
 ἵππους·  
 ἡ δ' ἐς δίφρον ἔβαινε ἀκηχεμένη φίλον ἦτορ,  
 365 παρ δέ οἱ Ἴρις ἔβαινε καὶ ἡνία λάζετο χερσί,  
 μᾶστιξεν δ' ἐλάαν, τῷ δ' οὐκ ἀέκοντε πετέσθην.  
 αἶψα δ' ἔπειθ' ἵκοντο θεῶν ἔδος, αἰπὺν Ὀλυμπον·  
 ἔνθ' ἵππους ἔστησε ποδῆνεμος ὠκέα Ἴρις  
 λύσας' ἐξ ὀχέων, παρὰ δ' ἀμβρόσιον βάλεν εἶδαρ·  
 370 ἡ δ' ἐν γούνασι πίπτε Διώνης δι' Ἀφροδίτη,



## BOOK 5

saved him in a dark cloud, lest one of the Danaans with swift horses might hurl a spear of bronze into his chest and take away his life. But over her shouted aloud Diomedes good at the war cry: "Keep away, daughter of Zeus, from war and fighting. Is it not enough that you deceive weakling women? But if into battle you will enter, I think you will surely shudder at the very word, even if you hear it from afar."

So he spoke, and frantic she went away, and suffered dreadfully; and wind-footed Iris took her and led her out from the throng, racked with pain, and her fair flesh was darkened. Then she found furious Ares sitting on the left of the battle, and on a cloud was his spear leaning, and nearby his two swift horses. Then she fell on her knees and with earnest prayer begged for her dear brother's horses with frontlets of gold: "Brother dear, save me, and give me your horses, so that I may go to Olympus, where is the abode of the immortals. For exceedingly am I pained with a wound which a mortal man dealt me, Tydeus' son, who would now fight even with father Zeus."

So she spoke, and Ares gave her his horses with frontlets of gold; and she mounted on the chariot, her heart distraught, and beside her mounted Iris and took the reins in her hands. She touched the horses with the whip to start them, and nothing loath the pair sped on. Quickly then they came to the abode of the gods, steep Olympus, and there wind-footed, swift Iris stayed the horses and loosed them from the chariot, and cast before them food ambrosial; but fair Aphrodite flung herself on the knees of

μητρὸς ἐῆς· ἡ δ' ἀγκὰς ἐλάζετο θυγατέρα ἦν,  
χειρὶ τέ μιν κατέρεξε·ν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἐκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·  
“τίς νύ σε τοιάδ' ἔρεξε, φίλον τέκος, Οὐρανίωνων  
μαψιδίων, ὥς εἴ τι κακὸν ῥέζουσιν ἐνωπῇ;”

375 Τὴν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα φιλομμειδῆς Ἀφροδίτη·  
“οὐτά με Τυδέος υἱός, ὑπέρθυμος Διομήδης,  
οὔνεκ' ἐγὼ φίλον υἱὸν ὑπεξέφερον πολέμοιο,  
Αἰνείαν, ὃς ἐμοὶ πάντων πολὺ φίλτατός ἐστιν.  
οὐ γὰρ ἔτι Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν φύλοπις αἰνή,  
380 ἀλλ' ἤδη Δαναοί γε καὶ ἀθανάτοισι μάχονται.”

Τὴν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Διώνη, δῖα θεάων·  
“τέτλαθι, τέκνον ἐμόν, καὶ ἀνάσχεο κηδομένη περ·  
πολλοὶ γὰρ δὴ τλήμεν Ὀλύμπια δώματ' ἔχοντες  
ἐξ ἀνδρῶν, χαλέπ' ἄλγε' ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισι τιθέντες.  
385 τλῆ μὲν Ἄρης, ὅτε μιν ὦτος κρατερός τ' Ἐφιάλτης,  
παῖδες Ἀλωῆος, δῆσαν κρατερῶ ἐνὶ δεσμῶ·  
χαλκῆῳ δ' ἐν κεράμῳ δέδετο τρισκαίδεκα μῆνας·  
καὶ νύ κεν ἔνθ' ἀπόλοιτο Ἄρης ἄτος πολέμοιο,  
εἰ μὴ μητρυνή, περικαλλῆς Ἡερίβοια,  
390 Ἑρμέα ἐξήγγειλεν· ὃ δ' ἐξέκλεψεν Ἄρηα  
ἤδη τειρόμενον, χαλεπὸς δέ ἐ δεσμὸς ἐδάμνα.  
τλῆ δ' Ἥρη, ὅτε μιν κρατερὸς πάις Ἀμφιτρύωνος  
δεξιτερὸν κατὰ μαζὸν οἰστῶ τριγλώχινι  
βεβλήκει· τότε καὶ μιν ἀνήκεστον λάβεν ἄλγος.  
395 τλῆ δ' Αἴδης ἐν τοῖσι πελώριος ὦκὺν οἰστόν,  
εὐτέ μιν ὦπτός ἀνῆρ, υἱὸς Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο,  
ἐν Πύλῳ ἐν νεκύεσσι βαλὼν ὀδύνῃσιν ἔδωκεν·  
αὐτὰρ ὃ βῆ πρὸς δῶμα Διὸς καὶ μακρὸν Ὀλυμπον

## BOOK 5

her mother Dione. She clasped her daughter in her arms, and stroked her with her hand and spoke to her, saying: "Now who of the sons of heaven, dear child, has done such things to you wantonly, as though you were working some evil in the sight of all?"

To her then made answer laughter-loving Aphrodite: "Tydeus' son, Diomedes high of heart, wounded me, because I was carrying out from the battle my dear son Aeneas, who is far the dearest of all men to me. For no longer is the dread battle one between Trojans and Achaeans; but now the Danaans at least fight even with the immortals."

To her then made answer Dione, the fair goddess: "Be of good heart, my child, and endure for all your suffering; for many of us who have dwellings on Olympus have suffered at the hands of men, while bringing grievous woes on one another. So suffered Ares, when Otus and mighty Ephialtes, the sons of Aloeus, bound him in cruel bonds, and in a brazen jar he lay bound for thirteen months; and then would Ares, insatiate of war, have perished, had not the stepmother of the sons of Aloeus, the beauteous Eëriboea, reported to Hermes; and he stole Ares away, who was now in great distress, for his harsh bonds were overpowering him. So suffered Hera, when the mighty son of Amphitryon struck her on the right breast with a three-barbed arrow; then to her too came pain unbearable. And so suffered huge Hades like the others a bitter arrow, when this same man, the son of Zeus who bears the aegis, struck him in Pylos among the dead, and gave him over to pains. But he went to the house of Zeus and to high Olympus with

- κῆρ ἀχέων, ὀδύνῃσι πεπαρμένος· αὐτὰρ οἰστὸς  
 400 ὦμῳ ἐνὶ στιβαρῷ ἠλήλατο, κῆδε δὲ θυμόν.  
 τῷ δ' ἐπὶ Παιήων ὀδυνήφата φάρμακα πάσσω  
 ἠκέσατ'· οὐ μὲν γάρ τι καταθνητός γε τέτυκτο.  
 σχέτλιος, ὀβριμοεργός,<sup>14</sup> ὃς οὐκ ὅθι' αἷσυλα ῥέζων,  
 ὃς τόξοισιν ἔκηδε θεούς, οἳ Ὀλυμπον ἔχουσι.  
 405 σοὶ δ' ἐπὶ τοῦτον ἀνῆκε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·  
 νήπιος, οὐδὲ τὸ οἶδε κατὰ φρένα Τυδέος υἱός,  
 ὅττι μάλ' οὐ δηναῖος ὃς ἀθανάτοισι μάχεται,  
 οὐδέ τί μιν παῖδες ποτὶ γούνασι παππάζουσιν  
 ἐλθόντ' ἐκ πολέμοιο καὶ αἰνῆς δηιοτήτος.  
 410 τῷ νῦν Τυδεΐδης, εἰ καὶ μάλα καρτερός ἐστι,  
 φραζέσθω μή τίς οἱ ἀμείνων σείο μάχεται,  
 μῆ δὴν Αἰγιάλεια, περίφρων Ἀδρηστήνη,  
 ἐξ ὕπνου γοόωσα φίλους οἰκῆας ἐγείρη,  
 κουρίδιον ποθέουσα πόσιν, τὸν ἄριστον Ἀχαιῶν,  
 415 ἰφθίμη ἄλοχος Διομήδεος ἵπποδάμοιο.”  
 Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἀμφοτέρησιν ἀπ' ἰχῶ χειρὸς<sup>15</sup> ὁμόργυν·  
 ἄλθετο χεῖρ, ὀδύναι δὲ κατηπιόωντο βαρεῖαι.  
 αἱ δ' αὖτ' εἰσορόωσαι Ἀθηναίη τε καὶ Ἥρη  
 κερτομίοις ἐπέεσσι Δία Κρονίδην ἐρέθιζον.  
 420 τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἦρχε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·  
 “Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἦ ῥά τί μοι κεχολώσῃαι, ὅττι κεν εἴπω;  
 ἦ μάλα δή τινα Κύπρις Ἀχαιάδων ἀνιείσα  
 Τρῳσὶν ἅμα σπέσθαι, τοὺς νῦν ἔκπαγλα φίλησε,  
 τῶν τινα καρρέζουσα Ἀχαιάδων ἐνπέπλων  
 425 πρὸς χρυσῇ περόνῃ καταμύξατο χεῖρα ἀραιήν.”

grief at heart, pierced through with pains; for into his mighty shoulder had the shaft been driven, and distressed his heart. But Paeëon spread on it herbs that slay pain, and healed him; for he was not of mortal mold. Harsh man, worker of violence, who did not hesitate to do evil deeds, who with his arrows distressed the gods who hold Olympus. And against you has the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, set this man—fool that he is; for the mind of Tydeus' son knows not this, that that man endures not for long who fights with the immortals, nor do his children prattle about his knees when he has come back from war and the dread conflict. So now let Tydeus' son, even if he is very mighty, consider lest one better than you fight against him, lest indeed Aegialeia, the wise daughter of Adrastus, with her long lamentings wake from sleep all her dear servants, as she wails for her wedded husband, the best man of the Achaeans, she, the stately wife of horse-taming Diomedes."

She spoke, and with both her hands wiped the ichor from the arm; the arm was restored, and the grievous pains assuaged. But Athene and Hera, as they looked on, tried to provoke Zeus, son of Cronos, with mocking words. And among them the goddess flashing-eyed Athene was first to speak: "Father Zeus, will you be angry with me at all for what I say? It would appear that now Cypris has been urging some one of the women of Achaea to follow after the Trojans, whom now she so exceedingly loves; and while stroking such a one of the fair-robed women of Achaea, on her golden brooch she has scratched her delicate hand."

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<sup>14</sup> ὀβριμοεργός: αἰσυλοεργός Aristarchus.

<sup>15</sup> χειρὸς: χερσὶν Zenodotus.

ὣς φάτο, μείδῃσεν δὲ πατὴρ ἀνδρῶν τε θεῶν τε,  
καὶ ῥα καλεσσάμενος προσέφη χρυσῇν Ἀφροδίτην·  
“οὐ τοι, τέκνον ἐμόν, δέδοται πολεμήια ἔργα,  
ἀλλὰ σύ γ’ ἡμερόεντα μετέρχεο ἔργα γάμοιο,  
430 ταῦτα δ’ Ἄρῃ θοῶ καὶ Ἀθήνῃ πάντα μελήσει.”

ὣς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,  
Αἰνεία δ’ ἐπόρουσε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης,  
γιγνώσκων ὃ οἱ αὐτὸς ὑπείρεχε χεῖρας Ἀπόλλων·  
ἀλλ’ ὃ γ’ ἄρ’ οὐδὲ θεὸν μέγαν ἄζετο, ἴετο δ’ αἰεὶ  
435 Αἰνείαν κτεῖναι καὶ ἀπὸ κλυτὰ τεύχεα δῦσαι.  
τρὶς μὲν ἔπειτ’ ἐπόρουσε κατακτάμεναι μενεαίνων,  
τρὶς δέ οἱ ἐστυφέλιξε φαινήνῃ ἀσπίδ’ Ἀπόλλων.  
ἀλλ’ ὅτε δὴ τὸ τέταρτον ἐπέσσυτο δαίμονι ἴσος,  
δεινὰ δ’ ὁμοκλήσας προσέφη ἐκάεργος Ἀπόλλων·  
440 “φράζεο· Τυδεΐδης δ’ ἀνεχάζετο τυτθὸν ὀπίσσω,  
μῆνιν ἀλευάμενος ἐκατηβόλου Ἀπόλλωνος.  
Αἰνείαν δ’ ἀπάτερθεν ὀμίλου θῆκεν Ἀπόλλων  
Περγάμῳ εἰν ἱερῇ, ὅθι οἱ νηὸς γ’ ἐτέτυκτο.  
ἦ τοι τὸν Λητώ τε καὶ Ἄρτεμις ἰοχέαιρα  
ἐν μεγάλῳ ἀδύτῳ ἀκέοντό τε κύδαινό τε·  
αὐτὰρ ὁ εἶδωλον τεύξ’ ἀργυρότοξος Ἀπόλλων  
450 αὐτῷ τ’ Αἰνεία ἵκελον καὶ τεύχεσι τοῖον,  
ἀμφὶ δ’ ἄρ’ εἰδῶλῳ Τρῶες καὶ δῖοι Ἀχαιοὶ  
δῆρουν ἀλλήλων ἀμφὶ στήθεσσι βοείας  
ἀσπίδας εὐκύκλους λαισήϊά τε πτερόεντα.

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So she spoke, but the father of men and gods smiled, and calling to him golden Aphrodite, said: "Not to you, my child, are given works of war; but attend to the lovely works of marriage, and all these things shall be the business of swift Ares and Athene."

Thus they spoke to one another; but Diomedes, good at the war cry, leapt at Aeneas, though well he knew that Apollo himself held his arms over him; yet he had no reverence even for the great god, but was still eager to slay Aeneas and strip from him his glorious armor. Thrice then he leapt at him, eager to slay him, and thrice did Apollo beat back his shining shield. But when for the fourth time he rushed on him like a god, then with a terrible cry spoke to him Apollo who works from afar: "Consider, son of Tydeus, and withdraw, do not be minded to think on a par with the gods; since in no way of like sort is the race of immortal gods and that of men who walk upon the earth."

So he spoke, and the son of Tydeus gave ground a little backwards, avoiding the wrath of Apollo who strikes from afar. Aeneas then did Apollo set far from the throng in holy Pergamus, where his shrine had been built. There Leto and the archer Artemis healed him in the great sanctuary, and gave him glory; but Apollo of the silver bow fashioned a wraith in the likeness of Aeneas himself and in armor like his; and around the wraith the Trojans and noble Achaeans struck the bull's-hide shields about one another's chests, the round shields and fluttering bucklers. Then to furious

- δὴ τότε θοῦρον Ἄρηα προσηύδα Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων·  
 455 “Ἄρες Ἄρες βροτολοιγέ, μαιφόνε, τειχεσιπλήτα,  
 οὐκ ἂν δὴ τόνδ’ ἄνδρα μάχης ἐρύσαιο μετελθών,  
 Τυδεΐδην, ὃς νῦν γε καὶ ἂν Διὶ πατρὶ μάχοιτο;  
 Κύπριδα μὲν πρῶτα σχεδὸν οὔτασε χεῖρ’ ἐπὶ καρπῷ,  
 αὐτὰρ ἔπειτ’ αὐτῷ μοι ἐπέσσυτο δαίμονι ἴσος.”
- 460 Ὡς εἰπὼν αὐτὸς μὲν ἐφέζετο Περγάμῳ ἄκρῃ,  
 Τρῶας δὲ στίχας οὖλος Ἄρης ὄτρυνε μετελθών,  
 εἰδόμενος Ἀκάμαντι θοῷ ἡγήτορι Θρηγκῶν·  
 νιάσι δὲ Πριάμοιο διοτρεφέεσσι κέλευεν·  
 “ὦ νιεῖς Πριάμοιο, διοτρεφέος βασιλῆος,  
 465 ἐς τί ἔτι κτείνεσθαι ἐάσετε λαὸν Ἀχαιοῖς;  
 ἦ εἰς ὃ κεν ἀμφὶ πύλης ἐν ποιητῆσι μάχωνται;  
 κείται ἀνὴρ ὃν ἴσον ἐτίομεν Ἑκτορι δίῳ,  
 Αἰνείας, υἱὸς μεγαλήτορος Ἀγχίσαο·  
 ἀλλ’ ἄγετ’ ἐκ φλοίσβοιο σαώσομεν ἐσθλὸν ἐταῖρον.”
- 470 Ὡς εἰπὼν ὄτρυνε μένος καὶ θυμὸν ἐκάστου.  
 ἔνθ’ αὖ Σαρπηδὼν μάλα νείκεσεν Ἑκτορα δῖον·  
 “Ἑκτορ, πῇ δὴ τοι μένος οἷχεται ὃ πρὶν ἔχεσκες;  
 φῆς που ἄτερ λαῶν πόλιν ἐξέμεν ἡδ’ ἐπικούρων  
 οἶος, σὺν γαμβροῖσι κασιγνήτοισί τε σοῖσι.  
 475 τῶν νῦν οὔ τιν’ ἐγὼ ἰδέειν δύναμ’ οὐδὲ νοῆσαι,  
 ἀλλὰ καταπτώσσουσι κύνες ὥς ἀμφὶ λέοντα·  
 ἡμεῖς δὲ μαχόμεσθ’, οἳ πέρ τ’ ἐπίκουροι ἔνειμεν.  
 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼν ἐπίκουρος ἐὼν μάλα τηλόθεν ἤκω·  
 τηλοῦ γὰρ Λυκίῃ, Ξάνθῳ ἔπι δινήεντι,  
 480 ἔνθ’ ἄλοχόν τε φίλην ἔλιπον καὶ νήπιον υἱόν,  
 καδὲ δὲ κτήματα πολλά, τὰ ἔλδεται ὅς κ’ ἐπιδευής.



## BOOK 5

Ares spoke Phoebus Apollo: "Ares, Ares, you bane of mortals, you blood-stained stormer of walls, will you not now enter into the battle and drag this man out of it, this son of Tydeus, who now would fight even against father Zeus? Cypris first in close fight he wounded on the hand at the wrist, but then he rushed at me myself like a god."

So he spoke, and he himself sat down on the height of Pergamus, and destructive Ares entered the Trojans' ranks and urged them on, in the likeness of swift Acamas, leader of the Thracians. To Priam's sons, nurtured by Zeus, he called, saying: "You sons of Priam, the king nurtured by Zeus, how long will you continue to allow your army to be slain by the Achaeans? Will it be until such time as they fight around our well-built gates? The man lies low whom we honored like noble Hector, Aeneas, son of great-hearted Anchises. But come, out of the din of conflict let us save our noble comrade."

So saying he aroused the force and spirit of every man. And Sarpedon moreover sternly rebuked noble Hector, saying: "Hector, where now is the force gone that before you had? You thought, I suppose, that without men and allies you would hold the city alone with the aid of your sisters' husbands and your brothers; but none of these can I now either see or recognize, but they cower like dogs around a lion; and it is we that fight, we who are only allies among you. For I who am but an ally have come from very far; far off is Lycia by eddying Xanthus, where I left my dear wife and infant son, and many possessions which every man who lacks them desires. But even so I urge on

ἀλλὰ καὶ ὧς Λυκίους ὀτρύνω καὶ μέμον' αὐτὸς  
 ἀνδρὶ μαχήσασθαι· ἀτὰρ οὐ τί μοι ἐνθάδε τοῖον  
 οἶόν κ' ἦε φέροιεν Ἀχαιοὶ ἢ κεν ἄγοιεν·

485 τύνη δ' ἔστηκας, ἀτὰρ οὐδ' ἄλλοισι κελεύεις  
 λαοῖσιν μενέμεν καὶ ἀμυνέμεναι ὥρεσσι.  
 μή πως, ὥς ἀψῖσι λῖνοί' ἀλόντε πανάγρου,  
 ἀνδράσι δυσμενέεσσιν ἔλωρ καὶ κύρμα γένησθε·  
 οἱ δὲ τάχ' ἐκπέρσουσ' ἐν ναιομένην πόλιν ὑμήν.  
 490 σοὶ δὲ χρή τάδε πάντα μέλειν νύκτας τε καὶ ἡμαρ,  
 ἀρχοὺς λισσομένω τηλεκλειτῶν ἐπικούρων  
 νωλεμέως ἐχέμεν, κρατερὴν<sup>16</sup> δ' ἀποθέσθαι ἐνιπήν."

Ὡς φάτο Σαρπηδῶν, δάκε δὲ φρένας Ἑκτορι μῦθος·  
 αὐτίκα δ' ἐξ ὀχέων σὺν τεύχεσιν ἄλτο χαμᾶζε,  
 495 πάλλων δ' ὀξέε δοῦρε κατὰ στρατὸν ὄχχετο πάντη,  
 ὀτρύνων μαχέσασθαι, ἔγειρε δὲ φύλοπιν αἰνήν.  
 οἱ δ' ἐλελίχθησαν καὶ ἐναντίοι ἔσταν Ἀχαιῶν·  
 Ἀργεῖοι δ' ὑπέμειναν ἀολλέες οὐδ' ἐφόβηθεν.  
 ὥς δ' ἄνεμος ἄχνας φορέει ἱερὰς κατ' ἀλῶας  
 500 ἀνδρῶν λικμώντων, ὅτε τε ξανθὴ Δημήτηρ  
 κρίνη ἐπειγομένων ἀνέμων καρπὸν τε καὶ ἄχνας,  
 αἱ δ' ὑπολευκαίνονται ἀχυρμαί· ὥς τότε Ἀχαιοὶ  
 λευκοὶ ὑπερθε γέγοντο κονισάλῳ, ὃν ῥα δι' αὐτῶν  
 οὐρανὸν ἐς πολύχαλκον ἐπέπληγον πόδες ἵππων,  
 505 ἀψ ἐπιμισγομένων· ὑπὸ δ' ἔστρεφον ἡνιοχῆς.  
 οἱ δὲ μένος χειρῶν ἰθὺς φέρον· ἀμφὶ δὲ νύκτα  
 θοῦρος Ἄρης ἐκάλυψε μάχη Τρώεσσιν ἀρήγων,  
 πάντοσ' ἐποιχόμενος· τοῦ δ' ἐκράαιεν ἐφετμὰς

the Lycians, and am eager myself to fight my man, though there is nothing of mine here of such a sort that the Achaeans might carry or drive it away; but you stand there and do not even urge your men to stay and defend their wives. Watch out lest you and they, as if caught in the meshes of all-ensnaring flax, become a prey and spoil to your foes; and they will soon lay waste your well-peopled city. On you should all these cares rest by night and day, and you should beg the leaders of your far-famed allies to hold their ground unflinchingly, and so put away from you this mighty rebuke."

So spoke Sarpedon, and his words stung Hector to the heart. Immediately he leapt in his armor from his chariot to the ground, and brandishing his two sharp spears went everywhere throughout the army, urging them to fight, and roused the dread din of battle. So they rallied and stood facing the Achaeans; and the Argives in close throng awaited their coming and fled not. And just as the wind carries chaff about the holy threshing floors of men that are winnowing, when golden-haired Demeter among the driving blasts of wind separates the grain from the chaff, and the heaps of chaff grow white; so now did the Achaeans grow white over head and shoulders beneath the cloud of dust that through the midst of the warriors the hooves of their horses beat up to the brazen heaven, as the fight was joined again; and the charioteers wheeled round. The force of their hands they carried straight on, and around the battle furious Ares drew a veil of night to aid the Trojans, as he ranged everywhere; so fulfilled he the charge of

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<sup>16</sup> κρατερήν: χαλεπήν.

- Φοῖβον Ἀπόλλωνος χρυσαόρου, ὅς μιν ἀνώγει  
 510 Τρῶσιν θυμὸν ἐγείρει, ἐπεὶ ἶδε Παλλάδ' Ἀθήνην  
 οἰχομένην· ἥ γάρ ῥα πέλεν Δαναοῖσιν ἀρηγών.  
 αὐτὸς δ' Αἰνείαν μάλα πῖονος ἐξ ἀδύτοιο  
 ἦκε, καὶ ἐν στήθεσσι μένος βάλε ποιμένι λαῶν.  
 Αἰνείας δ' ἐτάροισι μεθίστατο· τοῖ δ' ἐχάρησαν,  
 515 ὥς εἶδον ζῶόν τε καὶ ἀρτεμέα προσιόντα  
 καὶ μένος ἐσθλὸν ἔχοντα. μετᾴλλησάν γε μὲν οὐ τι  
 οὐ γὰρ ἔα πόνος ἄλλος, ὃν ἀργυρότοξος ἔγειρεν  
 Ἄρης τε βροτολοιγὸς Ἔρις τ' ἄμοτον μεμανῖα.  
 Τοὺς δ' Αἴαντε δύνω καὶ Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ Διομήδης  
 520 ὄτρυνον Δαναοὺς πολεμιζέμεν· οἱ δὲ καὶ αὐτοὶ  
 οὔτε βίας Τρῶων ὑπεδείδισαν οὔτε ἰωκάς,  
 ἀλλ' ἔμενον νεφέλῃσιν ἐοικότες, ἅς τε Κρονίων  
 νηνεμῆς ἔστησεν ἐπ' ἀκροπόλοισιν ὄρεσσιν  
 ἀτρέμας, ὅφρ' εὖδῃσι μένος Βορέας καὶ ἄλλων  
 525 ζαχρειῶν ἀνέμων, οἳ τε νέφεα σκιόεντα  
 πνοιῇσιν λιγυρῇσι διασκιδνᾷσιν αἶντες·  
 ὥς Δαναοὶ Τρῶας μένον ἔμπεδον οὐδ' ἐφέβοντο.  
 Ἀτρεΐδης δ' ἀν' ὄμιλον ἐφοῖτα πολλὰ κελεύων·  
 “ὦ φίλοι, ἀνέρες ἔστε καὶ ἄλκιμον ἦτορ ἔλεσθε,  
 530 ἀλλήλους τ' αἰδεῖσθε κατὰ κρατερὰς ὑσμίνας·  
 αἰδομένων ἀνδρῶν πλέονες σόοι ἢ ἐπέφανται·  
 φευγόντων δ' οὔτ' ἄρ κλέος ὄρνυται οὔτε τις ἀλκή.”  
 Ἦ, καὶ ἀκόντισε δουρὶ θεῶς, βάλε δὲ πρόμον  
 ἄνδρα,  
 Αἰνείῳ ἔταρον μεγαθύμον, Δηϊκόωντα  
 535 Περγασίδην, ὃν Τρῶες ὁμῶς Πριάμοιο τέκεσσι

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Phoebus Apollo of the golden sword, who commanded him to rouse the spirit of the Trojans, when he saw that Pallas Athene had gone away; for she it was who was bringing aid to the Danaans. And Apollo himself sent Aeneas out from the rich sanctuary, and put force in the breast of the shepherd of men. And Aeneas took his place in the midst of his comrades, and they rejoiced as they saw him coming to join them alive and whole and possessing noble courage. But they questioned him not at all, for toil of another sort did not allow them, the toil which he of the silver bow was rousing, and Ares the bane of mortals, and Strife that rages without ceasing.

On the other side the two Aiantes and Odysseus and Diomedes urged the Danaans on to fight; and they themselves did not fear the Trojans' violence and their assaults, but stood their ground like mists that in still weather the son of Cronos sets on the mountain tops motionless, when the force of the North Wind sleeps and of the other furious winds that blow with shrill blasts and scatter the shadowy clouds; so the Danaans withstood the Trojans steadfastly, and fled not. And the son of Atreus ranged through the throng with many a word of command: "My friends, be men, and have valiant hearts, and feel shame each of the other in the mighty combat. Of men that have shame more are saved than are slain, but from those that flee springs neither glory nor any defense."

He spoke, and hurled his spear swiftly and struck a foremost warrior, a comrade of great-hearted Aeneas, Deïcoön, son of Pergasus, whom the Trojans honored like

τίον, ἐπεὶ θεὸς ἔσκε μετὰ πρώτοισι μάχεσθαι.  
 τὸν ῥα κατ' ἀσπίδα δουρὶ βάλε κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 ἣ δ' οὐκ ἔγχος ἔρυτο, διαπρὸ δὲ εἷσατο χαλκός,  
 νειαίρη δ' ἐν γαστρὶ διὰ ζωστήῃρος ἔλασσε·

540 δούπησεν δὲ πεσών, ἀράβησε δὲ τεύχε' ἐπ' αὐτῷ.

Ἐνθ' αὖτ' Αἰνείας Δαναῶν ἔλεν ἄνδρας ἀρίστους,  
 υἱὲ Διοκλῆος, Κρήθωνά τε Ὀρσίλοχόν τε,  
 τῶν ῥα πατὴρ μὲν ἔναιεν ἐκτιμένη ἐνὶ Φηρῇ,  
 ἀφνειὸς βιότοιο, γένος δ' ἦν ἐκ ποταμοῖο

545 Ἀλφειοῦ, ὅς τ' εὐρὺν ῥέει Πυλίων διὰ γαίης,  
 ὃς τέκετ' Ὀρσίλοχον<sup>17</sup> πολέεσσ' ἄνδρεςσιν ἄνακτα·  
 Ὀρσίλοχος δ' ἄρ' ἔτικτε Διοκλῆα μεγάλθυμον,  
 ἐκ δὲ Διοκλῆος διδυμάονε παῖδε γενέσθην,  
 Κρήθων Ὀρσίλοχός τε, μάχης ἐν εἰδότε πάσης.

550 τὼ μὲν ἄρ' ἠβήσαντε μελαινάων ἐπὶ νηῶν  
 Ἴλιον εἰς εὐπωλον ἅμ' Ἀργεῖοισιν ἐπέσθην,  
 τιμὴν Ἀτρεΐδης, Ἀγαμέμνονι καὶ Μενελάῳ,  
 ἀρνυμένω· τὼ δ' αὖθι τέλος θανάτοιο κάλυψεν.  
 οἷω τῷ γε λέοντε δύω ὄρεος κορυφῇσιν

555 ἐτραφέτην ὑπὸ μητρὶ βαθείης τάρφεσιν ὕλης·  
 τὼ μὲν ἄρ' ἀρπάζοντε βόας καὶ ἵφια μῆλα  
 σταθμοὺς ἀνθρώπων κεραΐζετον, ὄφρα καὶ αὐτὰ  
 ἀνδρῶν ἐν παλάμησι κατέκταθεν ὀξεί χαλκῷ·  
 τοίῳ τὼ χεῖρεσσιν ὑπ' Αἰνείαιο δαμέντε

560 καππεσέτην, ἐλάττησιν ἐοικότες ὑψηλῇσι.

Τὼ δὲ πεσόντ' ἐλέησεν ἀρηΐφίλος Μενέλαος,  
 βῆ δὲ διὰ προμάχων κεκορυθμένος αἶθοπι χαλκῷ,  
 σείων ἐγχεῖν· τοῦ δ' ὄτρυνεν μένος Ἄρης,

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the sons of Priam, since he was swift to fight among the foremost. Him did lord Agamemnon strike with his spear on the shield, and this stayed not the spear, but clean through it passed the bronze, and into the lower belly he drove it through the belt; and he fell with a thud, and over him his armor clanged.

Then Aeneas slew two champions of the Danaans, the sons of Diocles, Crethon and Orsilochus, whose father dwelt in well-built Phere, a man rich in substance, and in lineage he was sprung from the river Alpheius that flows in broad stream through the land of the Pylians, and who begot Orsilochus to be king over many men. And Orsilochus begot great-hearted Diocles, and of Diocles were born twin sons, Crethon and Orsilochus, well skilled in all manner of fighting. Now when the two had reached manhood, they followed with the Argives on the black ships to Ilios famed for its horses, seeking to win recompense for the sons of Atreus, Agamemnon and Menelaus; but themselves in that land did the end of death enfold. Like them two lions on the mountaintops are reared by their dam in the thickets of a deep wood; and the two snatch cattle and noble sheep and make havoc of the farmsteads of men, until they themselves are slain at the hands of men with the sharp sword; just so were these two vanquished at the hands of Aeneas, and fell like tall fir trees.

But as they fell Menelaus dear to Ares pitied them, and strode through the foremost fighters, armored in ruddy bronze and brandishing his spear; and Ares roused

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<sup>17</sup> Ὀρσί-: Ὀρτί- Zenodotus here and in the next line (cf. *Odyssey* 3. 489).

- τὰ φρονέων, ἵνα χερσὶν ὑπ' Αἰνείαιο δαμείῃ.  
 565 τὸν δ' ἶδεν Ἀντίλοχος, μεγαθύμου Νέστορος υἱός,  
 βῆ δὲ διὰ προμάχων, περὶ γὰρ δῖε ποιμένι λαῶν,  
 μή τι πάθοι, μέγα δέ σφας ἀποσφῆλκει πόνοιο.  
 τὼ μὲν δὴ χεῖράς τε καὶ ἔγχεα ὀξυόοντα  
 ἀντίον ἀλλήλων ἐχέτην μεμαῶτε μάχεσθαι·  
 570 Ἀντίλοχος δὲ μάλ' ἄγχι παρίστατο ποιμένι λαῶν.  
 Αἰνείας δ' οὐ μείνε, θοός περ ἐὼν πολεμιστής,  
 ὥς εἶδεν δύο φῶτε παρ' ἀλλήλοισι μένοντε·  
 οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν νεκροὺς ἔρυσαν μετὰ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν,  
 τὼ μὲν ἄρα δειλὴν βαλέτην ἐν χερσὶν ἐταίρων,  
 575 αὐτὰρ δὲ στρεφθέντε μετὰ πρῶτοισι μαχέσθην.  
 Ἔνθα Πυλαιμένεα ἐλέτην ἀτάλαντον Ἄρηι,  
 ἀρχὸν Παφλαγόνων μεγαθύμων ἀσπιστάων.  
 τὸν μὲν ἄρ' Ἀτρεΐδης δουρικλειτὸς Μενέλαος  
 ἐσταότ' ἔγχεϊ νύξε κατὰ κληῖδα τυχῆσας·  
 580 Ἀντίλοχος δὲ Μύδωνα βάλ', ἠνίοχον θεράποντα,  
 ἐσθλὸν Ἀτυμνιάδην, ὃ δ' ὑπέστρεφε μώνυχας ἵππους,  
 χερμαδίῳ ἀγκῶνα τυχὼν μέσον· ἐκ δ' ἄρα χειρῶν  
 ἠνία λεύκ' ἐλέφαντι χαμαὶ πέσον ἐν κονίῃσιν.  
 Ἀντίλοχον δ' ἄρ' ἐπαΐξας ξίφει ἤλασε κόρσῃν·  
 585 αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ἀσθμαίνων εὐεργέος ἔκπεσε δίφρου  
 κύμβαχος ἐν κονίῃσιν ἐπὶ βρεχμόν τε καὶ ὤμους.  
 δηθὰ μάλ' ἐστήκει—τύχε γάρ ῥ' ἀμάθοιο βαθείης—  
 ὄφρ' ἵππῳ πλήξαντε χαμαὶ βάλλον ἐν κονίῃσι  
 τοὺς ἵμας Ἀντίλοχος, μετὰ δὲ στρατὸν ἤλας  
 Ἀχαιῶν.



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his force with the intent that he might be vanquished at the hands of Aeneas. But Antilochus, son of great-hearted Nestor, saw him, and strode through the foremost fighters; for greatly did he fear for the shepherd of men, lest something happen to him, and he wholly frustrate them of their toil. Now the two were holding out their hands and their sharp spears against each other, eager to do battle, when Antilochus came up to the shepherd of men. Then Aeneas did not hold his ground, swift warrior though he was, when he saw the two holding their ground side by side; and they, when they had dragged the dead to the army of the Achaeans, laid the unlucky pair in the arms of their comrades, and themselves turned back and fought among the foremost.

Then the two slew Pylaemenes, peer of Ares, the leader of the great-hearted Paphlagonian shieldmen. Him as he stood still, the son of Atreus, spear-famed Menelaus, pierced with his spear, striking him on the collarbone; and Antilochus made a cast at Mydon, his attendant and charioteer, the noble son of Atymnius, just as he was turning the single-hoofed horses, and struck him with a stone square on the elbow; and from his hands the reins, white with ivory, fell to the ground in the dust. Then Antilochus leapt at him and drove his sword into his temple, and gasping he fell from the well-built chariot headlong in the dust on his head and shoulders. For a long time he stood there—for he lighted on deep sand—until his horses kicked him and knocked him to the ground in the dust; then Antilochus whipped, and drove them into the army of the Achaeans.

590 Τοὺς δ' Ἐκτωρ ἐνόησε κατὰ στίχας, ὦρτο δ' ἐπ'  
αὐτοὺς

κεκλήγων· ἅμα δὲ Τρώων εἶποντο φάλαγγες  
καρτεραί· ἦρχε δ' ἄρα σφιν Ἄρης καὶ πότνι' Ἐννώ,  
ἥ μὲν ἔχουσα Κυδοιμόν ἀναιδέα δημοτῆτος,  
Ἄρης δ' ἐν παλάμῃσι πελώριον ἔγχος ἐνώμα,  
595 φοίτα δ' ἄλλοτε μὲν πρόσθ' Ἐκτορος, ἄλλοτ' ὀπίσθε.

Τὸν δὲ ἰδὼν ῥίγησε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης.  
ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἀνὴρ ἀπάλαμνος, ἰὼν πολέος πεδίοιο,  
στήῃ ἐπ' ὠκυρόῳ ποταμῷ ἄλαδε προρέοντι,  
ἀφρῷ μορμύροντα ἰδὼν, ἀνά τ' ἔδραμ' ὀπίσσω,  
600 ὥς τότε Τυδείδης ἀνεχάζετο, εἶπέ τε λαῷ·  
“ὦ φίλοι, οἷον δὴ θαυμάζομεν Ἐκτορα δῖον  
αἰχμητὴν τ' ἔμεναι καὶ θαρσαλέον πολεμιστὴν·  
τῷ δ' αἰεὶ πάρα εἷς γε θεῶν, ὃς λοιγὸν ἀμύνει·  
καὶ νῦν οἱ πάρα κείνος Ἄρης, βροτῷ ἀνδρὶ ἐοικώς.  
605 ἀλλὰ πρὸς Τρώας τετραμμένοι αἰὲν ὀπίσσω  
εἴκετε, μηδὲ θεοῖς μενεαινέμεν ἱφί μάχεσθαι.”

Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφη, Τρῶες δὲ μάλα σχεδὸν ἤλυθον αὐτῶν.  
ἐνθ' Ἐκτωρ δύο φῶτε κατέκτανεν εἰδότε χάρμης,  
εἰν ἐνὶ δίφρῳ ἑόντε, Μενέσθην Ἀγχιάλόν τε.  
610 τὼ δὲ πεσόντ' ἐλέησε μέγας Τελαμώνιος Αἴας·  
στήῃ δὲ μάλ' ἐγγὺς ἰὼν, καὶ ἀκόντισε δουρὶ φαεινῷ,  
καὶ βάλεν Ἀμφιον, Σελάγου υἱόν, ὃς ῥ' ἐνὶ Παισῷ  
ναῖε πολυκτῆμων πολυλήϊος· ἀλλὰ ἑ μοῖρα  
ἦγ' ἐπικουρήσοντα μετὰ Πριάμόν τε καὶ νῆας.  
615 τὸν ῥα κατὰ ζωστήρα βάλεν Τελαμώνιος Αἴας,  
νειαίρη δ' ἐν γαστρὶ πάγῃ δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος,

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But Hector caught sight of them across the ranks, and rushed at them shouting aloud, and with him followed the mighty battalions of the Trojans; and Ares led them, and queen Enyo, bringing ruthless Din of War, while Ares wielded in his hands a huge spear, and ranged now in front of Hector and now behind him.

At sight of him Diomedes, good at the war cry, shuddered; and just as a man in passing over a great plain halts helpless at a swift-streaming river that flows on to the sea, and seeing it seething with foam starts backward, so now did the son of Tydeus give ground, and he spoke to his men: "Friends, how we marveled at noble Hector, thinking him a spearman and a bold warrior; but ever by his side is some god who wards from him ruin, just as now Ares is by his side in the likeness of a mortal man. But with faces turned toward the Trojans give ground ever backwards, and do not be eager to do battle with gods."

So he spoke, and the Trojans came up very close to them. Then Hector slew two warriors well skilled in fight, Menesthes and Anchialus, the two being in one chariot. And as they fell great Telamonian Aias pitied them, and came up and stood close by, and with a cast of his shining spear struck Amphius, son of Selagus, who dwelt in Paesus, a man rich in substance, rich in wheat fields; but fate led him to come as an ally to Priam and his sons. Him Telamonian Aias struck on the belt, and in the lower belly was the far-shadowing spear fixed, and he fell with a thud.

δούπησεν δὲ πεσών· ὁ δ' ἐπέδραμε φαίδιμος Αἴας  
τεύχεα συλήσων· Τρῶες δ' ἐπὶ δούρατ' ἔχεναν  
ὀξέα παμφανόωντα· σάκος δ' ἀνεδέξατο πολλά.

620 αὐτὰρ ὁ λάξ προσβὰς ἐκ νεκροῦ χάλκεον ἔγχος  
ἐσπάσατ'· οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔτ' ἄλλα δυνήσατο τεύχεα καλὰ  
ῥμοιιν ἀφελέσθαι· ἐπείγετο γὰρ βελέεσσι.

δείσε δ' ὃ γ' ἀμφίβασιν κρατερὴν Τρώων ἀγερῶχων,  
οἳ πολλοί τε καὶ ἐσθλοὶ ἐφέστασαν ἔγχε' ἔχοντες,  
625 οἳ ἔ μέγαν περ ἔοντα καὶ ἴφθιμον καὶ ἀγανὸν  
ῥσαν ἀπὸ σφείων· ὁ δὲ χασσάμενος πελεμήχθη.

Ὡς οἳ μὲν πονέοντο κατὰ κρατερὴν ὑσμίνην·  
Τληπόλεμον δ' Ἡρακλείδην, ἧν τε μέγαν τε,  
ῥρσεν ἐπ' ἀντιθέῳ Σαρπηδόνι μοῖρα κραταιή.

630 οἳ δ' ὅτε δὴ σχεδὸν ἦσαν ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισιν ἰόντες,  
υἱὸς θ' υἱωνός τε Διὸς νεφεληγερέταο,

τὸν καὶ Τληπόλεμος πρότερος πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπε·  
“Σαρπηῆδον, Λυκίων βουληφόρε, τίς τοι ἀνάγκη  
πτώσσειν ἐνθάδ' ἔοντι μάχης ἀδαήμονι φωτί;

635 ψευδόμενοι δέ σέ φασι Διὸς γόνον αἰγιόχοιο  
εἶναι, ἐπεὶ πολλὸν κείνων ἐπιδεύει ἀνδρῶν  
οἳ Διὸς ἐξεγένοντο ἐπὶ προτέρων ἀνθρώπων·

ἀλλοιόν<sup>18</sup> τινά φασι βίην Ἡρακληείην  
εἶναι, ἐμὸν πατέρα θρασυμέμνονα θυμολέοντα·

640 ὃς ποτε δεῦρ' ἐλθὼν ἔνεχ' ἵππων Λαομέδοντος  
ἐξ οἴης σὺν νηυσὶ καὶ ἀνδράσι παυροτέροισιν  
Ἴλίου ἐξαλάπαξε πόλιν, χήρωσε δ' ἀγνιάς·  
σοὶ δὲ κακὸς μὲν θυμός, ἀποφθινύθουσι δὲ λαοί.  
οὐδέ τί σε Τρώεσσιν οἶομαι ἄλκαρ ἔσεσθαι

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Then glorious Aias rushed up to him to strip him of his armor, and the Trojans rained on him their spears, all sharp and gleaming, and his shield caught many of them. But he planted his heel on the corpse and drew out the spear of bronze, but could not strip the rest of the fair armor from his shoulders, for he was pressed by missiles. And he feared the strong defence of the lordly Trojans who faced him, many and brave, with spears in their hands and, though he was tall and mighty and lordly, thrust him back from them, so that he reeled and gave ground.

So these toiled in the mighty combat, but Tlepolemus, son of Heracles, a powerful man and tall, was roused by resistless fate against godlike Sarpedon. And when they had come near as they advanced against each other, the one the son, the other the grandson of Zeus the cloud-gatherer, then Tlepolemus was first to speak, saying: "Sarpedon, counselor of the Lycians, why must you be skulking here, you who are a man unskilled in battle? They lie when they say you are sprung from Zeus who bears the aegis, since you are inferior far to those warriors who were sprung from Zeus in the days of men of old. Of another sort, men say, was mighty Heracles, my father, firm in the fight, the lion-hearted, who once came here because of the mares of Laomedon with only six ships and fewer men, and yet sacked the city of Ilios and made desolate its streets. But yours is a coward's heart, and your men are perishing. In no way I think will your coming from Lycia prove a defense to

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<sup>18</sup> ἀλλοῖόν: ἀλλ' οἶόν.

- 645 ἐλθόντ' ἐκ Λυκίης, οὐδ' εἰ μάλα καρτερός ἐσσι,  
ἀλλ' ὑπ' ἐμοὶ δμηθέντα πύλας Ἀίδαο περήσειν.”
- Τὸν δ' αὖ Σαρπηδὼν Λυκίων ἀγὸς ἀντίον ἤνδα·  
“Τληπόλεμ', ἧ τοι κείνος ἀπώλεσεν Ἴλιον ἱρὴν  
ἀνέρος ἀφραδίῃσιν ἀγανοῦ Λαομέδοντος,  
650 ὅς ρά μιν εὖ ἔρξαντα κακῶ ἠνίπαπε μύθῳ,  
οὐδ' ἀπέδωχ' ἵππους, ὧν εἵνεκα τηλόθεν ἦλθε.  
σοὶ δ' ἐγὼ ἐνθάδε φημὶ φόνον καὶ κῆρα μέλαιναν  
ἐξ ἐμέθεν τεύξεσθαι, ἐμῶ δ' ὑπὸ δουρὶ δαμέντα  
εὖχος ἐμοὶ δώσειν, ψυχὴν δ' Ἀϊδι κλυτοπόλῳ.”
- 655 ὣς φάτο Σαρπηδὼν, ὃ δ' ἀνέσχετο μείλινον ἔγχος  
Τληπόλεμος· καὶ τῶν μὲν ἀμαρτῇ δούρατα μακρὰ  
ἐκ χειρῶν ἦξαν· ὃ μὲν βάλεν αὐχένα μέσσον  
Σαρπηδὼν, αἰχμὴ δὲ διαμπερές ἦλθ' ἀλεγεινή·  
τὸν δὲ κατ' ὀφθαλμῶν ἐρεβεννὴ νύξ ἐκάλυψε.
- 660 Τληπόλεμος δ' ἄρα μηρὸν ἀριστερὸν ἔγχει μακρῶ  
βεβλήκειν, αἰχμὴ δὲ διέσσυτο μαιμώωσα,  
ὅστέῳ ἐγχριμφθεῖσα, πατὴρ δ' ἔτι λοιγὸν ἄμυνεν.
- Οἱ μὲν ἄρ' ἀντίθεον Σαρπηδόνα δῖοι ἐταῖροι  
ἐξέφερον πολέμοιο· βάρυνε δέ μιν δόρυ μακρὸν  
665 ἐλκόμενον· τὸ μὲν οὔ τις ἐπεφράσατ' οὐδ' ἐνόησε,  
μηροῦ ἐξερύσαι δόρυ μείλινον, ὄφρ' ἐπιβαίῃ,  
σπενδόντων· τοῖον γὰρ ἔχον πόνον ἀμφιέποντες.
- Τληπόλεμον δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐυκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοὶ  
ἐξέφερον πολέμοιο· νόησε δὲ δῖος Ὀδυσσεὺς  
670 τλήμονα θυμὸν ἔχων, μαίμησε δέ οἱ φίλον ἦτορ·  
μερμήριξε δ' ἔπειτα κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμὸν  
ἧ προτέρῳ Διὸς υἱὸν ἐριγδούποιο διώκοι,

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the men of Troy, not even if you are very mighty, but you will be vanquished at my hand and pass the gates of Hades."

And to him Sarpedon, leader of the Lycians, made answer: "Tlepolemus, it is true your sire destroyed sacred Ilios through the folly of that lordly man, Laomedon, who rebuked with harsh words him that had done him good service, and did not give him the mares for whose sake he had come from afar. But for you, I say that death and black fate will here be fashioned by my hands, and that vanquished by my spear you will give glory to me, and your soul to Hades of the noble steeds."

So spoke Sarpedon, and Tlepolemus raised high his ashen spear, and the long spears sped from the hands of both at the same instant. Sarpedon struck him square on the neck, and the grievous point passed clean through, and down on his eyes came the darkness of night and enfolded him. Tlepolemus had struck Sarpedon on the left thigh with his long spear, and the point sped through furiously and grazed the bone; but his father as yet warded off destruction.

Then his noble companions carried godlike Sarpedon out of the battle, and the long spear weighed heavily on him as it trailed, but in their haste no man considered or thought to draw out from his thigh the spear of ash so that he might stand on his feet; such toil had they in tending him.

And on the other side the well-greaved Achaeans carried Tlepolemus out of the battle, and noble Odysseus of the enduring heart noticed, and his spirit grew furious within him; and he debated then in mind and heart whether he should pursue further after the son of Zeus

- ἦ ὅ γε τῶν πλεόνων Λυκίων ἀπὸ θυμὸν ἔλοιτο.  
οὐδ' ἄρ' Ὀδυσσῇ μεγαλήτορι μόρσιμον ἦεν  
675 ἵφθιμον Διὸς υἱὸν ἀποκτάμεν ὅξεί χαλκῶ.  
τῷ ῥα κατὰ πληθὺν Λυκίων τράπε θυμὸν Ἀθήνη.  
ἔνθ' ὅ γε Κοίρανον εἶλεν Ἀλάστορά τε Χρομίον τε  
Ἄλκανδρόν θ' Ἀλιόν τε Νοήμονά τε Πρύτανίν τε.  
καί νύ κ' ἔτι πλέονας Λυκίων κτάνε διὸς Ὀδυσσεύς,  
680 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' ὅξυν νόησε μέγας κορυθαίολος Ἔκτωρ.  
βῆ δὲ διὰ προμάχων κεκορυθμένος αἶθοπι χαλκῶ,  
δεῖμα φέρων Δαναοῖσι. χάρη δ' ἄρα οἱ προσιόντι  
Σαρπηδὼν Διὸς υἱός, ἔπος δ' ὀλοφυδνὸν ἔειπε·  
“Πριαμίδη, μὴ δὴ με ἔλωρ Δαναοῖσιν ἐάσης  
685 κείσθαι, ἀλλ' ἐπάμυνον· ἔπειτά με καὶ λίποι αἰὼν  
ἐν πόλει ὑμετέρῃ, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἄρ' ἔμελλον ἐγὼ γε  
νοστήσας οἰκόνδε φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν  
εὐφρανέειν ἄλοχόν τε φίλην καὶ νήπιον υἱόν.”  
Ὡς φάτο, τὸν δ' οὐ τι προσέφη κορυθαίολος  
Ἔκτωρ,  
690 ἀλλὰ παρήξεν, λεληθμένος ὄφρα τάχιστα  
ᾧσαιτ' Ἀργείους, πολέων δ' ἀπὸ θυμὸν ἔλοιτο.  
οἱ μὲν ἄρ' ἀντίθεον Σαρπηδόνα διῶι ἐταῖροι  
εἶσαν ὑπ' αἰγιοόχοιο Διὸς περικαλλεί φηγῶ·  
ἐκ δ' ἄρα οἱ μηροῦ δόρυ μείλινον ὥσε θύραζε  
695 ἵφθιμος Πελάγων, ὅς οἱ φίλος ἦεν ἐταῖρος.  
τὸν δὲ λίπε ψυχή, κατὰ δ' ὀφθαλμῶν κέχυντ' ἀχλὺς.  
αὐτὶς δ' ἀμπνύνθη, περὶ δὲ πνοιῇ Βορέας  
ζῶγρει ἐπιπνέουσα κακῶς κεκαφηότα θυμόν.  
Ἀργεῖοι δ' ὑπ' Ἀρηι καὶ Ἑκτορι χαλκοκορυστῇ



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who thunders aloud, or should rather take the lives of more Lycians. But not for great-hearted Odysseus was it ordained to slay with the sharp sword the mighty son of Zeus; so Athene turned his mind toward the mass of the Lycians. Then he slew Coeranus and Alastor and Chromius and Alcandrus and Halius and Noëmon and Prytanis; and yet more of the Lycians would noble Odysseus have slain, had not great Hector of the flashing helmet been quick to notice. He strode through the foremost fighters armored in ruddy bronze, bringing terror to the Danaans. Then rejoiced at his coming Sarpedon, son of Zeus, and spoke to him a piteous word: "Son of Priam, do not allow me to lie a prey to the Danaans, but come to my rescue; then, if need be, let life depart from me in your city, since I was not to return home to my own native land to gladden my dear wife and infant son."

So he spoke, but Hector of the flashing helmet spoke no word in answer, but dashed by, eager quickly to thrust back the Argives and take the lives of many. Then his noble comrades had godlike Sarpedon sit beneath a beautiful oak of Zeus who bears the aegis, and out from his thigh mighty Pelagon, who was his dear comrade, thrust the spear of ash; and his breath left him, and down over his eyes a mist was shed. But he caught his breath again, and the breath of the North Wind as it blew on him made him live again after he had painfully breathed out his spirit.

But the Argives, pressed by Ares and Hector clad in

- 700 οὔτε ποτὲ προτρέποντο μελαινάων ἐπὶ νηῶν  
οὔτε ποτ' ἀντεφέροντο μάχη, ἀλλ' αἰὲν ὀπίσσω  
χάζονθ', ὥς ἐπύθοντο μετὰ Τρώεσσιν Ἄρηα.  
Ἐνθα τίνα πρῶτον, τίνα δ' ὕστατον ἐξενάριξαν  
Ἐκτωρ τε Πριάμοιο πάις καὶ χάλκεος Ἄρης;  
705 ἀντίθεον Τεύθραντ', ἐπὶ δὲ πλήξιππον Ὀρέστην,  
Τρῆχόν τ' αἰχμητὴν Αἰτώλιον Οἰνόμαόν τε,  
Οἶνοπίδην θ' Ἑλενον καὶ Ὀρέσβιον αἰολομήτρην,  
ὅς ῥ' ἐν Ἑλλήνῃ ναίεσκε μέγα πλούτοιο μεμηλώς,  
λίμνην κεκλιμένος Κηφισίδι· παρ δέ οἱ ἄλλοι  
710 ναῖον Βοιωτοὶ μάλα πίονα δῆμον ἔχοντες.  
Τοὺς δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη  
Ἀργείους ὀλέκοντας ἐνὶ κρατερῇ ὕσμίνῃ,  
αὐτίκ' Ἀθηναίην ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
“ὦ πόποι, αἰγιόχοιο Διὸς τέκος, Ἀτρυνώνη,  
715 ἦ ῥ' ἄλιον τὸν μῦθον ὑπέστημεν Μενελάῳ,  
Ἴλιον ἐκπέρσαντ' εὐτείχεον ἀπονέεσθαι,  
εἰ οὐτῷ μαίνεσθαι ἐάσομεν οὐλον Ἄρηα.  
ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ καὶ νῶϊ μεδώμεθα θούριδος ἀλκῆς.”  
Ὡς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθησε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη.  
720 ἣ μὲν ἐποιχομένη χρυσάμπυκας ἔντυεν ἵππους  
Ἥρη, πρέσβα θεά, θυγάτηρ μέγαλοιο Κρόνοιο.  
Ἥβη δ' ἄμφ' ὀχέεσσι θοῶς βάλε καμπύλα κύκλα,  
χάλκεα ὀκτάκνημα, σιδηρέῳ ἄξονι ἄμφις.  
τῶν ἦ τοι χρυσέῃ ἵτις ἄφθιτος, αὐτὰρ ὕπερθε  
725 χάλκῃ ἐπίσσωτρα προσαρηρότα, θαῦμα ἰδέσθαι  
πλήμναι δ' ἀργύρου εἰσὶ περιδρομοὶ ἀμφοτέρωθεν·  
δίφρος δὲ χρυσέοισι καὶ ἀργυρέοισιν ἱμάσιν

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bronze, neither turned to make for the black ships, nor yet could they hold out in fight, but they constantly gave ground backward, having become aware that Ares was among the Trojans.

Who then was first to be slain and who last by Hector, Priam's son, and brazen Ares? Godlike Teuthras, and then Orestes, driver of horses, Trechus, spearman of Aetolia, and Oenomaus, and Helenus, son of Oenops, and Oresbius with flashing apron, who dwelt in Hyle on the border of the Cephisian lake, greatly concerned for his wealth; and near him dwelt other Boeotians having a land exceeding rich.

But when the goddess, white-armed Hera, noticed them as they were slaying the Argives in the mighty combat, immediately she spoke winged words to Athene: "Well now, child of Zeus who bears the aegis, Atrytone, vain indeed were the words that we pledged to Menelaus, that only after sacking well-walled Ilios would he return home, if we are to allow baneful Ares to rage like this. But come, let us two also take thought of furious valor."

So she spoke, and the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, failed not to obey. She then went about harnessing the horses of golden frontlets, Hera, the honored goddess, daughter of great Cronos; and Hebe quickly put to the chariot on either side the curved wheels of bronze, eight-spoked, around the iron axle. Of these the fellow is of gold imperishable, and on it are tires of bronze fitted, a marvel to look on; and the hubs are of silver, revolving on this side and on that; and the body is plaited tight with gold and

- ἐντέταται, δοιαὶ δὲ περὶδρομοὶ ἄντυγές εἰσι.  
 τοῦ δ' ἐξ ἀργύρεος ῥυμὸς πέλεν· αὐτὰρ ἐπ' ἄκρῳ  
 730 δῆσε χρύσειον καλὸν ζυγόν, ἐν δὲ λέπαδνα  
 κάλ' ἔβαλε χρύσει· ὑπὸ δὲ ζυγὸν ἤγαγεν Ἥρη  
 ἵππους ὠκύποδας, μεμανῦ' ἔριδος καὶ αὐτῆς.  
 Αὐτὰρ Ἀθηναίη, κούρη Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο,  
 πέπλον μὲν κατέχευεν ἑανὸν πατρὸς ἐπ' οὔδει,<sup>19</sup>  
 735 ποικίλον, ὃν ῥ' αὐτὴ ποιήσατο καὶ κάμε χερσίν·  
 ἥ δὲ χιτῶν' ἐνδύσα Διὸς νεφεληγερέταο  
 τεύχεσιν ἐς πόλεμον θωρήσσετο δακρυόεντα.  
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' ὥμοισιν βάλετ' αἰγίδα θυσσανόεσσαν  
 δεινὴν, ἣν περὶ μὲν πάντῃ Φόβος ἐστεφάνωται,  
 740 ἐν δ' Ἔρις, ἐν δ' Ἀλκή, ἐν δὲ κρυόεσσα Ἰωκή,  
 ἐν δέ τε Γοργεῖη κεφαλὴ δεινοῖο πελώρου,  
 δεινὴ τε σμερδινὴ τε, Διὸς τέρας αἰγιόχοιο.  
 κρατὶ δ' ἐπ' ἀμφίφαλον κυνέην θέτο τετραφάληρον  
 χρυσεῖην, ἑκατὸν πολίων πρυλέεσσ' ἀραρυῖαν.  
 745 ἐς δ' ὄχρα φλόγεα ποσὶ βήσετο, λάζετο δ' ἔγχος  
 βριθὺ μέγα στιβαρόν, τῷ δάμνησι στίχας ἀνδρῶν  
 ἡρώων, οἷσιν τε κοτέσσεται ὀβριμοπάτρη.  
 Ἥρη δὲ μάστιγι θοῶς ἐπεμαίετ' ἄρ' ἵππους·  
 αὐτόμαται δὲ πύλαι μύκον οὐρανοῦ, ἃς ἔχον Ὠραι,  
 750 τῆς ἐπιτέτραπται μέγας οὐρανὸς Οὐλυμπός τε,  
 ἡμὲν ἀνακλῖναι πυκινὸν νέφος ἡδ' ἐπιθεῖναι.  
 τῇ ῥα δι' αὐτῶν κεντρηνεκέας ἔχον ἵππους·  
 εὖρον δὲ Κρονίωνα θεῶν ἄτερ ἡμενον ἄλλων

<sup>19</sup> Lines 734 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.

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silver thongs, and two rims there are that run around it. From the body stood out the pole of silver, and on its end she bound the fair golden yoke, and threw on it the fair golden breast-straps; and Hera led beneath the yoke the swift-footed horses, and was eager for strife and the war cry.

But Athene, daughter of Zeus who bears the aegis, let fall on her father's floor her soft robe, richly embroidered, that she herself had made and her hands had fashioned, and put on the tunic of Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, and arrayed herself in armor for tearful war. Around her shoulders she flung the tasselled aegis, fraught with terror, all around which Rout is set as a crown, and on it is Strife, on it Valor, and on it Assault, that makes the blood run cold, and on it is the Gorgon head of the terrible monster, terrible and awful, a portent of Zeus who bears the aegis. And on her head she set the helmet with two ridges and with bosses four, made of gold, and fitted with the foot soldiers of a hundred cities. Then she stepped on to the fiery chariot and grasped her spear, heavy and huge and strong, with which she vanquishes the ranks of men, those with whom she is angry, she, the daughter of the mighty sire. And Hera swiftly touched the horses with the whip, and of themselves groaned on their hinges the gates of heaven, which the Hours had in their keeping, to whom are entrusted great heaven and Olympus, whether to throw open the thick cloud or shut it. There through the gate they drove their horses patient of the goad; and they found the son of Cronos as he sat apart from the other gods on the topmost

- ἀκροτάτῃ κορυφῇ πολυδειράδος Οὐλύμποιο.  
 755 ἔνθ' ἵππους στήσασα θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη  
 Ζῆν' ὑπατον Κρονίδην ἐξείρετο καὶ προσέειπε·  
 “Ζεῦ πάτερ, οὐ νεμεσίζῃ Ἄρη τάδε καρτερὰ ἔργα,  
 ὅσσάτιόν τε καὶ οἶον ἀπώλεσε λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν  
 μάψ, ἀτὰρ οὐ κατὰ κόσμον, ἐμοὶ δ' ἄχος, οἳ δὲ ἔκηλοι  
 760 τέρπονται Κύπρις τε καὶ ἀργυρότοξος Ἀπόλλων,  
 ἄφρονα τοῦτον ἀνέντες, ὃς οὐ τίνα οἶδε θέμιστα;  
 Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἥ ρά τί μοι κεχολώσεαι, αἶ κεν Ἄρηα  
 λυγρῶς πεπληγυῖα μάχης ἐξ ἀποδιώμαι;”

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα  
 Ζεύς·

- 765 “ἄγρει μάν οἱ ἔπορσον Ἀθηναίην ἀγελείην,  
 ἥ ἔ μάλιστ' εἴωθε κακῆς ὀδύνῃσι πελάζειν.”  
 “ὦ ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθησε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη,  
 μάστιξεν δ' ἵππους· τῷ δ' οὐκ ἀέκοντε πετέσθην  
 μεσσηγὺς γαίης τε καὶ οὐρανοῦ ἀστερόεντος.  
 770 ὅσσον δ' ἡεροιδὲς ἀνὴρ ἶδεν ὀφθαλμοῖσιν  
 ἥμενος ἐν σκοπιῇ, λεύσσων ἐπὶ οἶνοπα πόντον,  
 τόσσον ἐπιθρώσκουσι θεῶν ὑψηχέες ἵπποι.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ Τροίην ἱξον ποταμῷ τε ῥέοντε,  
 ἦχι ροὰς Σιμόεις συμβάλλετον ἠδὲ Σκάμανδρος,  
 775 ἔνθ' ἵππους ἔστησε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη  
 λύσας' ἐξ ὀχέων, περὶ δ' ἡέρα πουλὺν ἔχευε·  
 τοῖσιν δ' ἀμβροσίην Σιμόεις ἀνέτειλε νέμεσθαι.  
 Αἰ δὲ βάτην τρήρωσι πελειάσιν ἴθμαθ' ὁμοῖαι.  
 ἀνδράσιν Ἀργείοισιν ἀλεξέμεναι μεμανῖαι.  
 780 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἵκανον ὅθι πλείστοι καὶ ἄριστοι

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peak of many-ridged Olympus. Then the goddess, white-armed Hera, stayed the horses, and made question of Zeus most high, the son of Cronos, and said: "Father Zeus, are you not indignant at Ares for these violent deeds, that he has destroyed so great and so noble an army of the Achaeans recklessly and in no due order and to my sorrow, while at their ease Cypris and Apollo of the silver bow are pleased at having let loose this madman who regards not any law? Father Zeus, will you be at all angry with me if I strike Ares painfully and drive him out of the battle?"

In answer spoke to her Zeus, the cloud-gatherer: "Come now, rouse against him Athene, driver of the spoil, who is especially used to bringing him evil pains."

So he spoke, and the goddess, white-armed Hera, failed not to obey, but touched her horses with the whip; and nothing loath the pair flew on between earth and starry heaven. As far as a man sees with his eyes into the haze of distance as he sits on a lookout point and gazes over the wine-dark deep, so far do the loud-neighing horses of the gods spring at a bound. But when they had come to the land of Troy and the two flowing rivers, where the Simoïs and the Scamander join their streams, there the goddess, white-armed Hera, stayed her horses, and loosed them from the chariot, and shed thick mist over them; and Simoïs made ambrosia to spring up for them to graze on.

Then the goddesses went with steps like those of timorous doves, eager to assist the Argive warriors. And when they had come to where the most and the best stood close

ἔστασαν, ἀμφὶ βίην Διομήδεος ἵπποδάμοιο  
 εἰλόμενοι, λείουσιν ἐοικότες ὠμοφάγοισιν  
 ἢ συσὶ κάπροισιν, τῶν τε σθένης οὐκ ἀλαπαδνόν,  
 ἔνθα στᾶσ' ἦυσε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη,

- 785 Στέντορι εἰσαμένη μεγαλήτορι χαλκεοφώνῳ,  
 ὃς τόσον ἀνδῆσασχ' ὅσον ἄλλοι πεντήκοντα.<sup>20</sup>  
 “αἰδῶς, Ἀργεῖοι, κάκ' ἐλέγχεα, εἶδος ἀγητοί·  
 ὄφρα μὲν ἐς πόλεμον πωλέσκετο δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς,  
 οὐδέ ποτε Τρῶες πρὸ πυλάων Δαρδανιάων  
 790 οἴχνεσκον· κείνου γὰρ ἐδείδισαν ὄβριμον ἔγχος·  
 νῦν δὲ ἐκάς πόλιος κοίλῃς ἐπὶ νηυσὶ μάχονται.”

Ὡς εἰποῦσ' ὄτρυνε μένος καὶ θυμὸν ἐκάστου.

Τυδεΐδῃ δ' ἐπόρουσε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·

εὔρε δὲ τόν γε ἄνακτα παρ' ἵπποισιν καὶ ὄχεσφιν

- 795 ἔλκος ἀναψύχοντα, τό μιν βάλε Πάνδαρος ἰῶ.  
 ἰδρῶς γάρ μιν ἔτειρεν ὑπὸ πλατέος τελαμῶνος  
 ἀσπίδος εὐκύκλον· τῷ τείρετο,<sup>21</sup> κάμνε δὲ χεῖρα,  
 ἂν δ' ἴσχων τελαμῶνα κελαινεφές αἶμ' ἀπομόργνυ.  
 ἱππείου δὲ θεὰ ζυγοῦ ἤψατο φώνησέν τε·

- 800 “ἦ ὀλίγον οἱ παῖδα ἐοικότα γείνατο Τυδεύς.

Τυδεύς τοι μικρὸς μὲν ἦν δέμας, ἀλλὰ μαχητής·

καί ῥ' ὅτε πέρ μιν ἐγὼ πολεμίζειν οὐκ εἴασκον

οὐδ' ἐκπαιφάσσειν, ὅτε τ' ἤλυθε νόσφιν Ἀχαιῶν

ἄγγελος ἐς Θήβας πολέας μετὰ Καδμείωνας·

- 805 δαίνυσθαί μιν ἄνωγον ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἔκηλον·

αὐτὰρ ὁ θυμὸν ἔχων ὃν καρτερόν, ὥς τὸ πάρος περ,

κούρους Καδμείων προκαλίζετο, πάντα δ' ἐνίκα

ῥηιδίως· τοίη οἱ ἐγὼν ἐπιτάρροθος ἦα.<sup>22</sup>



gathered about mighty Diomedes, tamer of horses, like ravening lions or wild boars, whose strength is not feeble, there the goddess, white-armed Hera, stood and shouted in the likeness of great-hearted Stentor of the brazen voice, whose voice is as great as that of fifty other men: "Shame! Argives, base objects of reproach, fair in appearance only! So long as noble Achilles fared into battle, never did the Trojans come out even in front of the Dardanian gates; for they feared his mighty spear; but now far from the city they are fighting at the hollow ships."

So saying she roused the force and spirit of every man. And to the side of Tydeus' son rushed the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene. She found that king beside his horses and chariot, cooling the wound that Pandarus had dealt him with his arrow. For the sweat troubled him beneath the broad strap of his round shield; by this he was troubled and his arm grew weary, so he was holding up the strap and wiping away the dark blood. Then the goddess laid hold of the yoke of his horses, and said: "Little like himself was the son that Tydeus begot. Tydeus was small in stature, but a warrior. And even when I would not allow him to fight or distinguish himself, when he came, and no Achaean with him, as a messenger to Thebes, into the midst of the many Cadmeians—I commanded him to feast in their halls at his ease—but he with his mighty heart as always challenged the youths of the Cadmeians and defeated them in everything very easily; such a helper was I to him. But as for you,

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<sup>20</sup> Line 786 was rejected by some ancient critics.

<sup>21</sup> *τείρετο: τρίβετο.*

<sup>22</sup> Line 808 was omitted by Aristarchus.

- 810 σοὶ δ' ἦ τοι μὲν ἐγὼ παρά θ' ἵσταμαι ἠδὲ φυλάσσω,  
καί σε προφρονέως κέλομαι Τρώεσσι μάχεσθαι·  
ἀλλὰ σευ ἦ κάματος πολυαῖξ γυνὴ δέδυνκεν,  
ἦ νύ σέ που δέον ἴσχει ἀκήριον· οὐ σύ γ' ἔπειτα  
Τυδέος ἔκγονός ἐσσι δαΐφρονος Οἰνεΐδαο.”
- Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη κρατερὸς Διο-  
μήδης·
- 815 “γιγνώσκω σε, θεά, θύγατερ Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο·  
τῶ τοι προφρονέως ἐρέω ἔπος οὐδ' ἐπικεύσω.  
οὔτε τί με δέος ἴσχει ἀκήριον οὔτε τις ὄκνος,  
ἀλλ' ἔτι σέων μέμνημαι ἐφετμέων, ἅς ἐπέτειλας·  
οὐ μ' εἷας μακάρεσσι θεοῖς ἀντικρὺ μάχεσθαι
- 820 τοῖς ἄλλοις· ἀτὰρ εἴ κε Διὸς θυγάτηρ Ἀφροδίτη  
ἔλθῃσ' ἐς πόλεμον, τήν γ' οὐτάμεν ὀξεί χαλκῶ.  
τοῦνεκα νῦν αὐτός τ' ἀναχάζομαι ἠδὲ καὶ ἄλλους  
Ἀργείους ἐκέλευσα ἀλήμεναι ἐνθάδε πάντας·  
γιγνώσκω γὰρ Ἄρηα μάχην ἀνὰ κοιρανέοντα.”
- 825 Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·  
“Τυδεΐδῃ Διόμηδες, ἐμῶ κεχαρισμένε θυμῶ,  
μήτε σύ γ' Ἄρηα τό γε δείδιθι μήτε τιν' ἄλλον  
ἀθανάτων· τοίη τοι ἐγὼν ἐπιτάρροθός εἰμι·  
ἀλλ' ἄγ' ἐπ' Ἄρηι πρώτῳ ἔχε μώνυχας ἵππους,
- 830 τύψον δὲ σχεδὴν μηδ' ἄζεο θοῦρον Ἄρηα,  
τοῦτον μαινόμενον, τυκτὸν κακόν, ἄλλοπρόσαλλον,  
ὃς πρόην μὲν ἐμοί τε καὶ Ἥρῃ στεῦτ' ἀγορεύων  
Τρῳσὶ μαχήσεσθαι, ἀτὰρ Ἀργείοισιν ἀρήξειν,  
νῦν δὲ μετὰ Τρώεσσιν ὁμιλεῖ, τῶν δὲ λέλασται.”
- 835 Ὡς φαμένῃ Σθένελον μὲν ἀφ' ἵππων ὥσε χαμαῖζε,

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you see I stand by your side and guard you, and am ready to urge you to fight with the Trojans, yet either has weariness born of your many assaults entered into your limbs, or perhaps spiritless terror possesses you. Then are you no offspring of Tydeus, the battle-minded son of Oeneus."

In answer to her spoke mighty Diomedes: "I recognize you, daughter of Zeus who bears the aegis; therefore I will eagerly tell you my word and hide it not. In no way does spiritless terror possess me nor any slackness, but I am still mindful of your charge which you laid on me. You would not allow me to fight face to face with the other blessed gods, but if Aphrodite the daughter of Zeus should enter the battle, her I was to wound with the sharp sword. For that reason I now give ground myself and have given command to all the rest of the Argives to be gathered here likewise; for I recognize Ares lording it over the battlefield."

And the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, answered him, saying: "Son of Tydeus, Diomedes, dear to my heart, fear not Ares on that account, nor any other of the immortals; so present a helper am I to you. But come, at Ares first drive your single-hoofed horses, and strike him in close fight, and do not stand in awe of furious Ares who raves here, a full-fashioned evil, a renegade, who just recently spoke with me and Hera, and promised he would fight against the Trojans and give aid to the Argives; but now he consorts with the Trojans and has forgotten the Argives."

So saying, with her hand she drew back Sthenelus,

- χειρὶ πάλιν ἐρύσασ', ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἐμπαπέως ἀπόρουσεν·  
 ἡ δ' ἐς δίφρον ἔβαινε παραὶ Διομήδεα δῖον  
 ἐμμεμανῖα θεά· μέγα δ' ἔβραχε φήγινος ἄξων<sup>23</sup>  
 βριθοσύνη· δεινὴν γὰρ ἄγεν θεὸν ἄνδρα τ' ἄριστον.
- 840 λάζετο δὲ μάστιγα καὶ ἡνία Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη·  
 αὐτίκ' ἐπ' Ἄρηι πρώτῳ ἔχε μώνυχας ἵππους.  
 ἦ τοι ὁ μὲν Περίφαντα πελώριον ἐξενάριζεν,  
 Αἰτωλῶν ὅχ' ἄριστον, Ὀχησίου ἀγλαὸν υἱόν·  
 τὸν μὲν Ἄρης ἐνάριζε μαιφόνος· αὐτὰρ Ἀθήνη
- 845 δύν' Ἀἴδος κυνέην, μή μιν ἴδοι ὄβριμος Ἄρης.  
 ὣς δὲ ἶδε βροτολοιγὸς Ἄρης Διομήδεα δῖον,  
 ἦ τοι ὁ μὲν Περίφαντα πελώριον αὐτόθ' ἔασε  
 κεῖσθαι, ὅθι πρῶτον κτείνων ἐξαίνυτο θυμόν,  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ βῆ ρ' ἰθὺς Διομήδεος ἵπποδάμοιο.
- 850 οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ σχεδὸν ἦσαν ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισιν ἰόντες,  
 πρόσθεν Ἄρης ὠρέξαθ' ὑπὲρ ζυγὸν ἡνία θ' ἵππων  
 ἔγχεϊ χαλκείῳ, μεμαῶς ἀπὸ θυμὸν ἐλέσθαι·  
 καὶ τό γε χειρὶ λαβοῦσα θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη  
 ὦσεν ὑπὲκ δίφροιο ἐτώσιον αἰχθῆναι.
- 855 δεύτερος αὖθ' ὠρμάτο βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης  
 ἔγχεϊ χαλκείῳ· ἐπέρεισε δὲ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη  
 νείατον ἐς κενεῶνα, ὅθι ζωννύσκετο μήτρη·  
 τῇ ρά μιν οὔτα τυχών, διὰ δὲ χροά καλὸν ἔδαψεν,  
 ἐκ δὲ δόρῳ σπάσεν αὖτις· ὁ δ' ἔβραχε χάλκεος Ἄρης,
- 860 ὅσσον τ' ἐννεάχιλοι ἐπίαχον ἢ δεκάχιλοι  
 ἀνέρες ἐν πολέμῳ ἔριδα ξυνάγοντες Ἄρης.  
 τοὺς δ' ἄρ' ὑπὸ τρόμος εἶλεν Ἀχαιοὺς τε Τρῳάς τε  
 δείσαντας· τόσον ἔβραχ' Ἄρης ἄτος πολέμοιο.

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and thrust him from the chariot to earth, and he speedily leapt down; and she stepped into the chariot beside noble Diomedes, a goddess eager for battle. Loudly did the oaken axle creak beneath its burden, for it was bearing a terrible goddess and an excellent man. Then Pallas Athene grasped the whip and the reins, and against Ares first she speedily drove the single-hoofed horses. He was stripping of his armor huge Periphas, who was far the best of the Aetolians, the glorious son of Ochesius. Him was blood-stained Ares stripping; but Athene put on the cap of Hades so that mighty Ares should not see her.

Now when Ares, the bane of mortals, noticed noble Diomedes, he let huge Periphas lie where he was, where first he had slain him and taken away his life, but made straight for Diomedes, tamer of horses. And when they were now near as they advanced against one other, Ares first reached out over the yoke and the reins of the horses with his spear of bronze, eager to take away the other's life; but the spear the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, caught in her hand and thrust up over the chariot to fly its way in vain. Next Diomedes, good at the war cry, drove at Ares with his spear of bronze, and Pallas Athene sped it mightily against the lower portion of his belly, where he was girded with his apron. There did he thrust and strike him, tearing the fair flesh, and he drew the spear out again. Then brazen Ares bellowed loud as nine thousand warriors or ten thousand cry in battle when they join in the strife of the War god; and trembling came over Achaeans and Trojans alike, and fear took hold of them; so mightily bellowed Ares insatiate of war.

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<sup>23</sup> Lines 838 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

- Οἷη δ' ἐκ νεφέων ἐρεβεννὴ φαίνεται ἀήρ  
καύματος ἔξ ἀνέμοιο δυσσαέος ὀρνυμένοιο,  
865 τοῖος Τυδείδῃ Διομήδεϊ χάλκεος Ἴδης  
φαίνεθ' ὁμοῦ νεφέεσσιν ἰὼν εἰς οὐρανὸν εὐρύν.  
καρπαλίμως δ' ἔκανε θεῶν ἔδος, αἰπὺν Ὀλυμπον,  
πὰρ δὲ Διὶ Κρονίῳ καθέζετο θυμὸν ἀχεύων,  
δείξεν δ' ἄμβροτον αἶμα καταρρέον ἔξ ὠτειλῆς,  
870 καὶ ῥ' ὀλοφυρόμενος ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
“Ζεῦ πάτερ, οὐ νεμεσίζῃ ὀρώων τάδε καρτερὰ ἔργα;  
αἰεὶ τοι ῥίγιστα θεοὶ τετληότες εἰμὲν  
ἀλλήλων ἰότητι, χάριν δ' ἄνδρεσσι φέροντες.  
σοὶ πάντες μαχόμεσθα· σὺ γὰρ τέκες ἄφρονα κούρην,  
875 οὐλομένην, ἣ τ' αἰὲν ἀήσυλα ἔργα μέμηλεν.  
ἄλλοι μὲν γὰρ πάντες, ὅσοι θεοὶ εἰς ἔν Ὀλύμπῳ,  
σοὶ τ' ἐπιπείθονται καὶ δεδμήμεσθα ἕκαστος·  
ταύτην δ' οὔτ' ἔπει προτιβάλλεαι οὔτε τι ἔργῳ,  
ἀλλ' ἀνιείς, ἐπεὶ αὐτὸς ἐγείναο παῖδ' αἰδηλον·  
880 ἣ νῦν Τυδέος υἱόν, ὑπερφίαλον Διομήδεα,  
μαργαίνειν ἀνέηκεν ἐπ' ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖσι.  
Κύπριδα μὲν πρῶτον σχεδὸν οὔτασε χεῖρ' ἐπὶ καρπῷ,  
αὐτὰρ ἔπειτ' αὐτῷ μοι ἐπέσσυτο δαίμονι ἴσος·  
ἀλλὰ μ' ὑπήνεικαν ταχέες πόδες· ἣ τέ κε δηρὸν  
885 αὐτοῦ πῆματ' ἔπασχον ἐν αἰνῇσιν νεκάδεσσιν,  
ἣ κε ζῶς ἀμενηνὸς ἕα χαλκοῖο τυπῇσι.”

Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα  
Ζεὺς·

“μή τί μοι, ἀλλοπρόσαλλε, παρεζόμενος μινύριζε.  
ἔχθιστος δέ μοί ἐσσι θεῶν οἱ Ὀλυμπον ἔχουσιν·

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Just as a black darkness appears from the clouds when after heat a blustering wind arises, so to Diomedes, son of Tydeus, did brazen Ares appear as he went among the clouds to broad heaven. Quickly he came to the abode of the gods, steep Olympus, and sat down by the side of Zeus, son of Cronos, grieved at heart, and pointed to the immortal blood flowing from the wound, and with wailing spoke to him winged words: "Father Zeus, are you not indignant at seeing these violent deeds? We gods constantly suffer most cruelly by one another's devices, when we show favor to men. With you are we all at war, for you are father to that mad and accursed maid, whose mind is always set on deeds of lawlessness. For all the other gods who are in Olympus are obedient to you, and subject to you, each one of us; but her you do not oppose either in word or in deed, but rather incite her, since this destructive maiden is your own child. Now she has incited the son of Tydeus, rash Diomedes, to vent his rage on immortal gods. Cypris first has he wounded in close fight on the hand at the wrist, but then he rushed at me myself like a god. But my swift feet carried me away; otherwise I would surely have long suffered woes there among the gruesome heaps of the dead, or else had lived strengthless through the blows of the spear."

Then with an angry glance spoke to him Zeus, the cloud-gatherer: "Sit not by me and whine, you renegade. Most hateful to me are you of all gods who hold Olympus,

- 890 αἰεὶ γάρ τοι ἔρις τε φίλη πόλεμοί τε μάχαι τε.  
μητρός τοι μένος ἐστὶν ἀάσχετον, οὐκ ἐπιεικτόν,  
Ἥρης. τὴν μὲν ἐγὼ σπουδῇ δάμνημ' ἐπέεσσι  
τῷ σ' οἶω κείνης τάδε πάσχειν ἐννεσίησιν.  
ἀλλ' οὐ μάν σ' ἔτι δηρὸν ἀνέξομαι ἄλγε' ἔχοντα·
- 895 ἐκ γὰρ ἐμεῦ γένος ἐσσί, ἐμοὶ δέ σε γείνατο μήτηρ·  
εἰ δέ τευ ἐξ ἄλλου γε θεῶν γένευ ᾧδ' αἰδήλος,  
καὶ κεν δὴ πάλαι ἦσθα ἐνέρτερος<sup>24</sup> Οὐρανιῶνων.”
- Ὡς φάτο, καὶ Παιήον' ἀνώγειν ἰήσασθαι  
τῷ δ' ἐπὶ Παιήων ὀδυνήφата φάρμακα πάσσω<sup>25</sup>
- 900 ἠκέσατ'· οὐ μὲν γάρ τι καταθνητός γ' ἐτέτυκτο.  
ὥς δ' ὅτ' ὁπὸς γάλα λευκὸν ἐπειγόμενος συνέπηξεν  
ὑγρὸν ἐόν, μάλα δ' ᾧκα περιτρέφεται κυκώωντι,  
ὥς ἄρα καρπαλίμως ἰήσατο θοῦρον Ἄρηα.  
τὸν δ' Ἥβη λούσεν, χαρίεντα δέ εἵματα ἔσσε·
- 905 παρ δὲ Διὶ Κρονίῳνι καθέζετο κύδει γαίῳ<sup>26</sup>
- Αἰ δ' αὖτις πρὸς δῶμα Διὸς μέγαλοιο νέοντο,  
Ἥρη τ' Ἀργεΐη καὶ Ἀλαλκομενηὶς Ἀθήνη,  
παύσασαι βροτολοιγὸν Ἄρη' ἀνδροκτασιῶν.

<sup>24</sup> ἐνέρτερος: ἐνέρτατος Zenodotus.

<sup>25</sup> πάσσω: πάσσειν Aristarchus, who omitted the following line.

<sup>26</sup> Line 906 (cf. l. 405) was rejected by Aristarchus.



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for always strife is dear to you, and wars and fighting. You have the unbearable, overpowering spirit of your mother, Hera; her can even I scarce control by my words. So it is by her promptings, I imagine, that you suffer these things. But I will no longer allow you to be in pain, for you are my offspring, and it was to me that your mother bore you; but if you had been born so destructive of any other god, then long before this you would have been lower than the heavenly gods."

He spoke, and commanded Paeëon to heal his hurt; and Paeëon spread on it herbs that slay pain, and healed him; for he was not at all of mortal mold. Just as the juice of the fig speedily makes to grow thick the white milk that is liquid, and it is quickly curdled as a man stirs it, so swiftly he healed furious Ares. And Hebe bathed him, and clad him in beautiful clothes, and he sat down by the side of Zeus, son of Cronos, exulting in his glory.

Then back to the halls of great Zeus went Argive Hera and Alalcomenean Athene, when they had made Ares, the bane of mortals, cease from his man-slaying.

## Z

Τρώων δ' οἰώθη καὶ Ἀχαιῶν φύλοπις αἰνῇ·  
πολλὰ δ' ἄρ' ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθ' ἴθυσε μάχη πεδίοιο  
ἀλλήλων ἰθυνομένων χαλκήρεα δοῦρα,  
μεσσηγὺς Σιμόεντος ἰδὲ Ξάνθοιο ῥοάων.<sup>1</sup>

- 5 Αἴας δὲ πρῶτος Τελαμώνιος, ἔρκος Ἀχαιῶν,  
Τρώων ῥῆξε φάλαγγα, φόως δ' ἐτάροισιν ἔθηκεν,  
ἄνδρα βαλὼν ὃς ἄριστος ἐνὶ Θρῆκεσσι τέτυκτο,  
υἱὸν Ἐυσσώρου, Ἀκάμαντ' ἡὺν τε μέγαν τε.  
τόν ῥ' ἔβαλε πρῶτος κόρυθος φάλον ἵπποδασείης,  
10 ἐν δὲ μετώπῳ πῆξε, πέρησε δ' ἄρ' ὀστέον εἴσω  
αἰχμὴ χαλκείῃ· τὸν δὲ σκότος ὅσσε κάλυψεν.  
Ἄξυλον δ' ἄρ' ἔπεφνε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης  
Τευθρανίδην, ὃς ἔναιεν ἐκτιμένη ἐν Ἀρίσβῃ  
ἀφνειὸς βιότοιο, φίλος δ' ἦν ἀνθρώποισι·  
15 πάντας γὰρ φιλέεσκεν ὁδῶ ἔπι οἰκία ναίων.  
ἀλλὰ οἱ οὐ τις τῶν γε τότε ἤρκεσε λυγρὸν ὄλεθρον  
πρόσθεν ὑπαντιάσας, ἀλλ' ἄμφω θυμὸν ἀπηύρα,  
αὐτὸν καὶ θεράποντα Καλήσιον, ὃς ῥά τότε ἵππων

<sup>1</sup> Aristarchus at first gave this line in the form,  
μεσσηγὺς ποταμοῖο Σκαμάνδρου καὶ στομαλίμνης.

## BOOK 6

So was the dread strife of the Trojans and Achaeans left to itself, and to this side and to that often surged the battle over the plain, as they aimed at one another their bronze-tipped spears between the Simoïs and the streams of Xanthus.

Aias, son of Telamon, bulwark of the Achaeans, was first to break a battalion of the Trojans, and to bring a light of safety to his comrades, for he struck a man who was best among the Thracians, Eussorus' son Acamas, a powerful man and tall. Him was he first to strike on the ridge of his helmet with crest of horsehair, and into his forehead drove the spear, and into the bone passed the bronze spear-point; and darkness enfolded his eyes.

And Diomedes, good at the war cry, slew Axylus, Teuthras' son, who lived in well-built Arisbe, a man rich in substance, who was beloved of all men; for he dwelt in a house by the highroad and was used to show hospitality to all. But of all these was there not one on this day to meet the foe before him and ward off from him woeful destruction; but Diomedes robbed the two of life, himself and his attendant Calesius, who was then the driver of his chariot;

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Chaeris gave,

μεσσηγὺς ποταμοῖο Σκαμάνδρου καὶ Σιμόεντος.

ἔσκειν ὑψηνίοχος· τὼ δ' ἄμφω γαῖαν ἐδύτην.

- 20 Δρῆσον δ' Εὐρύαλος καὶ Ὀφέλτιον ἐξενάριξε·  
βῆ δὲ μετ' Αἴσηπον καὶ Πήδασον οὓς ποτε νύμφη  
νῆις Ἀβαρβαρέη τέκ' ἀμύμονι Βουκολίῳνι.  
Βουκολίων δ' ἦν υἱὸς ἀγανοῦ Λαομέδοντος  
πρεσβύτατος γενεῇ, σκότιον δέ ἐ γείνατο μήτηρ·  
25 ποιμαίνων δ' ἐπ' ὅεσσι μίγῃ φιλότῃ καὶ εὐνῇ,  
ἣ δ' ὑποकुσαμένη διδυμάονε γείνατο παῖδε.  
καὶ μὲν τῶν ὑπέλυσε μένος καὶ φαίδιμα γυῖα  
Μηκιστηιάδης καὶ ἀπ' ὤμων τεύχε' ἐσύλα.

Ἄστυαλον δ' ἄρ' ἔπεφνε μενεπτόλεμος Πολυ-  
ποίτης·

- 30 Πιδύτην δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς Περκώσιον ἐξενάριξεν  
ἔγχει χαλκείῳ, Τεῦκρος δ' Ἀρετάονα δῖον.  
Ἀντίλοχος δ' Ἀβληρον ἐνήρατο δουρὶ φαεινῷ  
Νεστορίδης, Ἐλατον δὲ ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
ναίε δὲ Σατνιόεντος ἐυρρείταο παρ' ὄχθας  
35 Πήδασον αἰπεινῇν. Φύλακον δ' ἔλε Λήϊτος ἥρως  
φεύγοντ'· Εὐρύπυλος δὲ Μελάνθιον ἐξενάριξεν.

- Ἄδρηστον δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα βοῇν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος  
ζωὸν ἔλ'· ἵππῳ γάρ οἱ ἀτυζομένῳ πεδίῳιο,  
ὅζῳ ἐνὶ βλαφθέντε μυρικίνῳ, ἀγκύλον ἄρμα  
40 ἄξαντ' ἐν πρώτῳ ρύμῳ αὐτῶ μὲν ἐβήτην  
πρὸς πόλιν, ἧ περ οἱ ἄλλοι ἀτυζόμενοι φοβέοντο,  
αὐτὸς δ' ἐκ δίφροιο παρὰ τροχὸν ἐξεκυλίσθη  
πρηνῆς ἐν κονίῃσιν ἐπὶ στόμα. παρ δέ οἱ ἔστη  
Ἀτρεΐδης Μενέλαος, ἔχων δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος.  
45 Ἄδρηστος δ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα λαβὼν ἐλίσσετο γούνων·

so these two passed beneath the earth.

Then Euryalus laid low Dresus and Opheltius, and went after Aesepus and Pedasus, whom the fountain nymph Abarbarea had borne to incomparable Bucolion. Bucolion was son of lordly Laomedon, his eldest born, though his mother bore him out of wedlock; while shepherding his flocks he lay with the nymph in love, and she conceived and bore twin sons. Of these did the son of Mecisteus loose the might and the glorious limbs and strip the armor from their shoulders.

And Polypoetes firm in the fight slew Astyalus, and Odysseus with his spear of bronze laid low Pidytes of Percote, and Teucer noble Aretaon. And Antilochus, son of Nestor, slew Ablerus with his bright spear, and the lord of men, Agamemnon, slew Elatus who dwelt in steep Pedasus by the banks of fair-flowing Satnioeis. And the warrior Leïtus slew Phylacus, as he fled before him; and Eurypylus laid Melanthius low.

But Adrastus did Menelaus, good at the war cry, take alive; for his two horses, running in terror over the plain, became entangled in a tamarisk bough and, breaking the curved chariot at the end of the pole, themselves went toward the city where the rest were fleeing in rout; but he was hurled from the chariot beside the wheel headlong in the dust on his face. And to his side came Menelaus, son of Atreus, holding his far-shadowing spear. Then Adrastus clasped him by the knees and begged him: "Take me alive,

“ζώγρει, Ἀτρείος υἱέ, σὺ δ' ἄξια δέξαι ἅποινα·  
 πολλὰ δ' ἐν ἀφνειοῦ πατρὸς κειμήλια κείται,  
 χαλκός τε χρυσός τε πολύκμητός τε σίδηρος,  
 τῶν κέν τοι χαρίσαιο πατὴρ ἀπερείσι' ἅποινα,  
 50 εἴ κεν ἐμὲ ζῶν πεπύθοιτ' ἐπὶ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.”

“Ὡς φάτο, τῷ δ' ἄρα θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ἔπειθε·<sup>2</sup>  
 καὶ δὴ μιν τάχ' ἔμελλε θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
 δώσειν ᾧ θεράποντι καταξέμεν· ἀλλ' Ἀγαμέμνων  
 ἀντίος ἦλθε θέων, καὶ ὁμοκλήσας ἔπος ηὔδα·  
 55 “ὦ πέπον, ὦ Μενέλαε, τί ἦ δὲ σὺ κήδεαι οὕτως  
 ἀνδρῶν; ἦ σοὶ ἄριστα πεποίηται κατὰ οἶκον  
 πρὸς Τρώων; τῶν μή τις ὑπεκφύγοι αἰπὺν ὄλεθρον  
 χεῖράς θ' ἡμετέρας, μηδ' ὄν τινα γαστέρι μήτηρ  
 κοῦρον ἔοντα φέροι, μηδ' ὅς φύγοι, ἀλλ' ἅμα πάντες  
 60 Ἴλίου ἔξαπολοίατ' ἀκήδεστοι καὶ ἄφαντοι.”

“Ὡς εἰπὼν ἔτρεψεν ἀδελφειοῦ φρένας ἥρωες,  
 αἴσιμα παρειπών· ὁ δ' ἀπὸ ἔθην ὥσατο χειρὶ  
 ἥρω' Ἀδρηστον· τὸν δὲ κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 οὔτα κατὰ λαπάρην· ὁ δ' ἀνετράπετ', Ἀτρεΐδης δὲ  
 65 λαξ ἐν στήθεσι βὰς ἐξέσπασε μείλινον ἔγχος.

Νέστωρ δ' Ἀργείοισιν ἐκέκλετο μακρὸν αὖσας·  
 “ὦ φίλοι ἥρωες Δαναοί, θεράποντες Ἄρης,  
 μή τις νῦν ἐνάρων ἐπιβαλλόμενος μετόπισθε  
 μιμνέτω, ὥς κε πλείστα φέρων ἐπὶ νῆας ἵκηται,  
 70 ἀλλ' ἄνδρας κτείνωμεν· ἔπειτα δὲ καὶ τὰ ἔκηλοι  
 νεκροὺς ἅμ πεδίον συλήσετε τεθνηῶτας.”<sup>3</sup>

“Ὡς εἰπὼν ὄτρυνε μένος καὶ θυμὸν ἐκάστου.

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son of Atreus, and accept a worthy ransom; many treasures lie stored in the house of my wealthy father, bronze and gold and iron worked with much toil; from these would my father grant you ransom past counting if he should learn that I am alive at the ships of the Achaeans."

So he spoke, and was trying to persuade the other's heart in his breast; and indeed Menelaus was about to give him to his attendant to lead to the swift ships of the Achaeans, but Agamemnon came up on the run, cried out to him, and said: "Soft-hearted Menelaus, why are you so caring for men? Has great kindness been done you in your house by Trojans? Of them let not one escape sheer destruction and our hands, not even the boy whom his mother carries in her womb; let not even him escape, but let all perish together from Ilios, unmourned and unseen."

So spoke the warrior, and turned his brother's mind, for he counselled rightly; so Menelaus with his hand thrust from him the warrior Adrastus, and lord Agamemnon struck him on the flank, and he fell backward; and the son of Atreus planted his heel on his chest, and drew out the ashen spear.

Nestor shouted aloud, and called to the Argives: "My friends, Danaan warriors, attendants of Ares, let no man now stay back in eager desire for spoil, so that he may come to the ships carrying the greatest amount; but let us slay men; then at your ease shall you strip the armor from the corpses that lie dead over the plain."

So saying he aroused the force and heart of every man.

<sup>2</sup> ἔπειθε: ὄρινε.

<sup>3</sup> Zenodotus gave this line in the form,

Τρώων ἄμ πεδίουν συλήσομεν ἔντεα νεκρούς.

- ἔνθα κεν αὖτε Τρῶες ἀρηιφίλων ὑπ' Ἀχαιῶν  
 Ἴλιον εἰσανέβησαν ἀναλκείησι δαμέντες,  
 75 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' Αἰνεία τε καὶ Ἑκτορι εἶπε παραστὰς  
 Πριαμίδης Ἑλενος, οἶωνοπόλων ὅχ' ἄριστος·  
 “Αἰνεία τε καὶ Ἑκτορ, ἐπεὶ πόνος ὕμμι μάλιστα  
 Τρώων καὶ Λυκίων ἐγκέκλιται, οὔνεκ' ἄριστοι  
 πᾶσαν ἐπ' ἰθύν ἐστε μάχεσθαι τε φρονέειν τε,  
 80 στήτ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ λαὸν ἐρυκάκετε πρὸ πυλάων  
 πάντῃ ἐποιχόμενοι, πρὶν αὐτ' ἐν χερσὶ γυναικῶν  
 φεύγοντας πεσέειν, δηίοισι δὲ χάρμα γενέσθαι.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κε φάλαγγας ἐποτρύννητον ἀπάσας,  
 ἡμεῖς μὲν Δαναοῖσι μαχησόμεθ' αὐθι μένοντες,  
 85 καὶ μάλα τειρόμενοί περ· ἀναγκαίη γὰρ ἐπείγει  
 Ἑκτορ, ἀτὰρ σὺ πόλινδε μετέρχεο, εἰπέ δ' ἔπειτα  
 μητέρι σῇ καὶ ἐμῇ· ἥ δὲ ξυνάγουσα γεραιᾶς  
 νηὸν Ἀθηναίης γλαυκώπιδος ἐν πόλει ἄκρῃ,  
 οἷξασα κληῖδι θύρας ἱεροῖο δόμοιο,  
 90 πέπλον, ὅς οἱ δοκέει χαριέστατος ἠδὲ μέγιστος  
 εἶναι ἐνὶ μεγάρῳ καὶ οἱ πολὺν φίλτατος αὐτῇ,  
 θείναι Ἀθηναίης ἐπὶ γούνασιν ἠνκόμοιο,  
 καὶ οἱ ὑποσχέσθαι δυοκαίδεκα βούς ἐνὶ νηῷ  
 ἥνις ἠκέστας ἱερευσέμεν, αἶ κ' ἐλεήσῃ  
 95 ἄστνυ τε καὶ Τρώων ἀλόχους καὶ νήπια τέκνα,  
 αἶ κεν Τυδέος νιὸν ἀπόσχη Ἴλίου ἱρῆς,  
 ἄγριον αἰχμητήν, κρατερὸν μῆστωρα φόβοιο,  
 ὃν δὴ ἐγὼ κάρτιστον Ἀχαιῶν φημι γενέσθαι.  
 οὐδ' Ἀχιλλῆά ποθ' ᾧδέ γ' ἐδείδιμεν, ὄρχαμον ἀνδρῶν,  
 100 ὃν πέρ φασι θεᾶς ἐξ ἔμμεναι· ἀλλ' ὅδε λίην



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Then would the Trojans have been driven again by the Achaeans, dear to Ares, up to Ilios, vanquished by their lack of courage, if the son of Priam, Helenus, far the best of diviners, had not come up to Aeneas and Hector, and said to them: "Aeneas and Hector, since on you above all others rests the war toil of Trojans and Lycians, because in every undertaking you are the best both in battle and in counsel, hold your ground, and go everywhere among the men and keep them back in front of the gates, before in flight they fling themselves into their women's arms, and become a joy to their foes. But when you have roused all our battalions, we will stand our ground here and fight against the Danaans, worn out though we are, for necessity weighs hard on us; but you, Hector, go to the city and speak there to her that is your mother and mine; let her gather the older women to the shrine of flashing-eyed Athene in the citadel, and when she has opened with the key the doors of the holy house, the robe that seems to her the fairest and amplest in her hall, and that is much the most dear to her herself, this let her lay on the knees of fair-haired Athene, and vow to her that she will sacrifice in her shrine twelve year-old heifers that have not felt the goad, in the hope that she will have compassion on the city and the Trojans' wives and their little ones, in the hope that she may hold back from sacred Ilios the son of Tydeus, that savage spearman, a mighty deviser of rout, who has certainly, I say, proved to be the mightiest of the Achaeans. Not even Achilles did we ever fear so much, that leader of men, who, they say, is born of a goddess; but this man rages beyond all measure,

μαίνεται, οὐδέ τις οἱ δύναται μένος ἰσοφαρίζειν.”

- “Ὡς ἔφαθ’, Ἐκτωρ δ’ οὐ τι κασιγνήτῳ ἀπίθησεν.  
αὐτίκα δ’ ἐξ ὀχέων σὺν τεύχεσιν ἄλτο χαμᾶζε,  
πάλλων δ’ ὀξέε δούρε κατὰ στρατὸν ὥχετο πάντη,  
105 ὀτρύνων μαχέσασθαι, ἔγειρε δὲ φύλοπιν αἰνὴν.  
οἱ δ’ ἐλελίχθησαν καὶ ἐναντίοι ἔσταν Ἀχαιῶν.  
Ἀργεῖοι δ’ ὑπεχώρησαν, λήξαν δὲ φόνοιο,  
φὰν δέ τιν’ ἀθανάτων ἐξ οὐρανοῦ ἀστερόεντος  
Τρωσὶν ἀλεξήσοντα κατελθέμεν, ὥς ἐλέλιχθεν.  
110 Ἐκτωρ δὲ Τρώεσσιν ἐκέκλετο μακρὸν αὔσας·  
“Τρῶες ὑπέρθυμοι τηλεκλειτοὶ τ’ ἐπίκουροι,  
ἄνερες ἔστε, φίλοι, μνήσασθε δὲ θούριδος ἀλκῆς,<sup>4</sup>  
ὄφρ’ ἂν ἐγὼ βῶω προτὶ Ἴλιον, ἥδὲ γέρουσιν  
εἴπω βουλευτῆσι καὶ ἡμετέρης ἀλόχοισι  
115 δαίμοσιν ἀρήσασθαι, ὑποσχέσθαι δ’ ἐκατόμβας.”

“Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας ἀπέβη κορυθαίολος Ἐκτωρ·  
ἀμφὶ δέ μιν σφυρὰ τύπτε καὶ αὐχένα δέρμα κελαινον,  
ἄντυξ ἧ πυμάτη θέεν ἀσπίδος ὀμφαλοέσσης.

- Γλαῦκος δ’ Ἴππολόχοιο παῖς καὶ Τυδέος υἱὸς  
120 ἐς μέσον ἀμφοτέρων συνίτην μεμαῶτε μάχεσθαι.  
οἱ δ’ ὅτε δὴ σχεδὸν ἦσαν ἐπ’ ἀλλήλοισιν ἰόντε,  
τὸν πρότερος προσέειπε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
“τίς δὲ σύ ἐσσι, φέριστε, καταθνητῶν ἀνθρώπων;  
οὐ μὲν γάρ ποτ’ ὅπωπα μάχῃ ἐνὶ κυδιανείρῃ  
125 τὸ πρίν· ἀτὰρ μὲν νῦν γε πολὺ προβέβηκας ἀπάντων  
σῶ θάρσει, ὃ τ’ ἐμὸν δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος ἔμεινας.  
δυστήνων δέ τε παῖδες ἐμῶ μένει ἀντιώωσιν.

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and no one can rival him in force.”

So he spoke, and Hector was in no way disobedient to his brother. Immediately he leapt in his armor from his chariot to the ground, and brandishing his two sharp spears went everywhere throughout the army, urging them to fight; and he roused the dread din of battle. So they rallied, and stood facing the Achaeans, and the Argives gave ground and ceased from slaying; and they thought that one of the immortals had come down from starry heaven to assist the Trojans, who had rallied so. And Hector shouted aloud and called to the Trojans: “Trojans, high of heart, and far-famed allies, be men, my friends, and take thought of furious valor, while I go to Ilios and tell the elders who give counsel and our wives to pray to the gods and promise them hecatombs.”

So saying, Hector of the flashing helmet went away, and the black hide at either end of his shield struck against his ankles and his neck, the rim that ran around the outermost edge of his bossed shield.

But Glaucus, son of Hippolochus, and the son of Tydeus came together in the space between the two armies, eager to do battle. And when they had now come near as they advanced one against the other, Diomedes, good at the war cry, was first to speak, saying: “Who are you, mighty one, among mortal men? For never have I seen you in battle where men win glory until this day, but now you have come out far in advance of all in your boldness, in that you stand up to my far-shadowing spear. Unhappy are they whose children face my might. But if you are one of the im-

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<sup>4</sup> φίλοι . . . ἀλκῆς: θοοὶ καὶ ἀμύνετον ἄστεϊ λώβην Zenodotus.

- εἰ δέ τις ἀθανάτων γε κατ' οὐρανοῦ εἰλήλουθας,  
οὐκ ἂν ἐγώ γε θεοῖσιν ἐπουρανίοισι μαχοίμην.  
130 οὐδὲ γὰρ οὐδὲ Δρύαντος υἱός, κρατερὸς Λυκόεργος,  
δὴν ἦν, ὅς ῥα θεοῖσιν ἐπουρανίοισιν ἔριζεν·  
ὅς ποτε μαινομένοιο Διωνύσοιο τιθήνας  
σεῦε κατ' ἡγάθεον Νυσήιον· αἱ δ' ἅμα πᾶσαι  
θύσθλα χαμαὶ κατέχευαν, ὑπ' ἀνδροφόνοιο Λυκούρ-  
γου
- 135 θεινόμεναι βουπλήγι· Διώνυσος δὲ φοβηθεῖς<sup>5</sup>  
δύσεθ' ἄλὸς κατὰ κύμα, Θέτις δ' ὑπεδέξατο κόλπῳ  
δειδιότα· κρατερὸς γὰρ ἔχε τρόμος ἀνδρὸς ὁμοκλή·  
τῷ μὲν ἔπειτ' ὀδύσαντο θεοὶ ρεῖα ζώοντες,  
καί μιν τυφλὸν ἔθηκε Κρόνου πάις· οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔτι δὴν  
140 ἦν, ἐπεὶ ἀθανάτοισιν ἀπήχθετο πᾶσι θεοῖσιν·  
οὐδ' ἂν ἐγὼ μακάρεσσι θεοῖς ἐθέλοιμι μάχεσθαι.  
εἰ δέ τίς ἐσσι βροτῶν, οἳ ἀρούρης καρπὸν ἔδουσιν,  
ἄσσον ἴθ', ὥς κεν θᾶσσον ὀλέθρου πείραθ' ἵκηαι.”  
Τὸν δ' αὖθ' Ἴππολόχοιο προσηύδα φαίδιμος υἱός·  
145 “Τυδεΐδη μεγάθυμε, τίη γενεὴν ἐρεεῖνεις;  
οἷη περ φύλλων γενεή, τοίη δὲ καὶ ἀνδρῶν.  
φύλλα τὰ μὲν τ' ἄνεμος χαμάδις χέει, ἄλλα δέ θ' ὕλη  
τηλεθόωσα φύει, ἔαρος δ' ἐπιγίγνεται ὥρη·<sup>6</sup>  
ὥς ἀνδρῶν γενεὴ ἢ μὲν φύει ἢ δ' ἀπολήγει.  
150 εἰ δ' ἐθέλεις, καὶ ταῦτα δαήμεναι, ὄφρ' ἐν εἰδῆς  
ἡμετέρην γενεήν, πολλοὶ δέ μιν ἄνδρες ἴσασιν.  
ἔστι πόλις Ἐφύρη μυχῶ Ἄργεος ἵπποβότοιο,  
ἐνθα δὲ Σίσυφος ἔσκεν, ὃ κέρδιστος γένετ' ἀνδρῶν,  
Σίσυφος Αἰολίδης· ὃ δ' ἄρα Γλαῦκον τέκεθ' υἱόν,

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mortals come down from heaven, I will not fight with the heavenly gods. No, for not even the son of Dryas, mighty Lycurgus, lived long, he who strove with heavenly gods; he drove down over the sacred mount of Nysa the nurses of raging Dionysus, and they all together let their wands fall to the ground, struck with an ox-goad by man-slaying Lycurgus; but Dionysus fled, and plunged beneath the wave of the sea, and Thetis received him in her bosom, filled with fear, for mighty terror got hold of him at the man's shouts. Then at Lycurgus did the gods who live at their ease grow angry, and the son of Cronos made him blind; and he lived not for long, since he was hated by all the immortal gods. So I would not wish to fight against the blessed gods. But if you are of men, who eat the fruit of the field, come nearer, so that you may the sooner enter the coils of destruction."

Then spoke to him the glorious son of Hippolochus: "Great-hearted son of Tydeus, why do you inquire of my lineage? Just as are the generations of leaves, such are those also of men. As for the leaves, the wind scatters some on the earth, but the luxuriant forest sprouts others when the season of spring has come; so of men one generation springs up and another passes away. But, if you want, hear this also, so that you may know well my lineage; and many men know it. There is a city Ephyre in a corner of Argos, pastureland of horses, and there dwelt Sisyphus who was craftiest of men, Sisyphus, son of Aeolus; and he begot a

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<sup>5</sup> φοβηθεῖς: χολωθεῖς Zenodotus.

<sup>6</sup> ὦρη: ὄρη Aristophanes.

- 155 αὐτὰρ Γλαῦκος τίκτειν ἀμύμονα Βελλεροφόντην.  
 τῷ δὲ θεοὶ κάλλος τε καὶ ἡνορέην ἐρατεινὴν  
 ὤπασαν· αὐτὰρ οἱ Προῖτος κακὰ μήσατο θυμῷ,  
 ὅς ῥ' ἐκ δήμου ἔλασσειν, ἐπεὶ πολὺ φέρτερος ἦεν,  
 Ἀργείων· Ζεὺς γάρ οἱ ὑπὸ σκήπτρῳ ἐδάμασσε.  
 160 τῷ δὲ γυνὴ Προΐτου ἐπεμήνατο, δι' Ἀντεια,  
 κρυπταδίῃ φιλότῃ μιγήμεναι· ἀλλὰ τὸν οὐ τι  
 πείθ' ἀγαθὰ φρονέοντα, δαΐφρονα Βελλεροφόντην.  
 ἥ δὲ ψευσαμένη Προῖτον βασιλῆα προσηύδα·  
 ἔθναίης, ὦ Προῖτ', ἥ κάκτανε Βελλεροφόντην,  
 165 ὅς μ' ἔθελεν φιλότῃ μιγήμεναι οὐκ ἐθελούσῃ.  
 ὥς φάτο, τὸν δὲ ἄνακτα χόλος λάβεν οἶον ἄκουσε·  
 κτείνειν μὲν ῥ' ἀλέεινε, σεβάσσατο γὰρ τό γε θυμῷ,  
 πέμπε δέ μιν Λυκίηνδε, πόρεν δ' ὃ γε σήματα λυγρά,  
 γράψας ἐν πίνακι πτυκτῷ θυμοφθόρα πολλά,  
 170 δεῖξαι δ' ἡνώγειν ᾧ πενθερῷ, ὅφρ' ἀπόλοιτο.  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ βῆ Λυκίηνδε θεῶν ὑπ' ἀμύμονι πομπῇ.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ Λυκίην ἵξε Ξάνθον τε ρέοντα,  
 προφρονέως μιν τίεν ἄναξ Λυκίης εὐρείης·  
 ἐννῆμαρ ξείνισσε καὶ ἐννέα βοῦς ἰέρευσεν.  
 175 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ δεκάτῃ ἐφάνη ῥοδοδάκτυλος Ἥως,  
 καὶ τότε μιν ἐρέεινε καὶ ἦτεε σῆμα ἰδέσθαι,  
 ὅττι ῥά οἱ γαμβροῖο πάρα Προΐτοιο φέροιτο.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ σῆμα κακὸν παρεδέξατο γαμβροῦ,  
 πρῶτον μὲν ῥά Χίμαιραν ἀμαιμακέτην ἐκέλευσε  
 180 πεφνέμεν. ἥ δ' ἄρ' ἔην θεῖον γένος, οὐδ' ἀνθρώπων,  
 πρόσθε λέων, ὅπιθεν δὲ δράκων, μέσση δὲ χίμαιρα,  
 δεινὸν ἀποπνέουσα πυρὸς μένος αἰθομένοιο.

## BOOK 6

son Glaucus; and Glaucus begot incomparable Bellerophon. To him the gods granted beauty and lovely manliness; but Proetus in his heart devised against him evil, and drove him from the land of the Argives, since he was far mightier; for Zeus had made him subject to his scepter. Now the wife of Proetus, fair Anteia, lusted madly for Bellerophon, to lie with him in secret love, but could in no way persuade wise Bellerophon, since his mind was upright. So she made a tale of lies, and spoke to king Proetus: "Either die yourself, Proetus, or kill Bellerophon, who was minded to lie with me in love against my will." So she spoke, and wrath laid hold of the king at what he heard. He shunned killing him, for his heart shrank from that; but he sent him to Lycia, and gave him fatal tokens, scratching in a folded tablet signs many and deadly,<sup>1</sup> and ordered him to show these to his father-in-law, so that he might perish. So he went to Lycia under the incomparable escort of the gods. And when he came to Lycia and the stream of Xanthus, then eagerly did the king of wide Lycia do him honor: for nine days he showed him hospitality, and sacrificed nine oxen. But when the tenth rosy-fingered Dawn appeared, then at last he questioned him and asked to see whatever token he brought from his son-in-law, Proetus. But when he had received from him the evil token from his son-in-law, first he told him to slay the raging Chimaera. She was of divine stock, not of men, in front a lion, in back a serpent, and in the middle a goat, breathing out terribly the force of blazing fire. And Bellerophon slew her, in obe-

<sup>1</sup> This is the only passage in Homer which suggests knowledge of the art of writing. M.

- καὶ τὴν μὲν κατέπεφνε θεῶν τεράεσσι πιθήσας.  
 δεῦτερον αὖ Σολύμοισι μαχέσσατο κυδαλίμοισι·  
 185 καρτίστην δὴ τὴν γε μάχην φάτο δύμεναι ἀνδρῶν.  
 τὸ τρίτον αὖ κατέπεφνε Ἀμαζόνας ἀντιανείρας.  
 τῷ δ' ἄρ' ἀνερχομένῳ πυκινὸν δόλον ἄλλον ὕφαινε·  
 κρίνας ἐκ Λυκίης εὐρείης φῶτας ἀρίστους  
 εἶσε λόχον· τοῖ δ' οὐ τι πάλιν οἰκόνδε νέοντο·  
 190 πάντας γὰρ κατέπεφνε ἀμύμων Βελλεροφόντης.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ γίγνωσκε θεοῦ γόνον ἦν ἑόντα,  
 αὐτοῦ μιν κατέρυκε, δίδου δ' ὅ γε θυγατέρα ἦν,  
 δῶκε δέ οἱ τιμῆς βασιληίδος ἥμισυ πάσης·  
 καὶ μὲν οἱ Λύκιοι τέμενος τάμον ἔξοχον ἄλλων,  
 195 καλὸν φυταλιῆς καὶ ἀρούρης, ὄφρα νέμοιτο.<sup>7</sup>  
 ἦ δ' ἔτεκε τρία τέκνα δαΐφρονι Βελλεροφόντῃ,  
 Ἰσανδρόν τε καὶ Ἱππόλοχον καὶ Λαοδάμειαν.  
 Λαοδαμείῃ μὲν παρελέξατο μητίετα Ζεὺς,  
 ἦ δ' ἔτεκε ἀντίθεον Σαρπηδόνα χαλκοκορυστήν.  
 200 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ καὶ κείνος ἀπήχθετο πᾶσι θεοῖσιν,  
 ἦ τοι ὁ κὰπ πεδίον τὸ Ἀλήιον οἶος ἀλᾶτο,  
 ὃν θυμὸν κατέδων, πάτον ἀνθρώπων ἀλεείνων·  
 Ἰσανδρον δέ οἱ υἱὸν Ἄρης ἄτος πολέμοιο  
 μαρνάμενον Σολύμοισι κατέκτανε κυδαλίμοισι·  
 205 τὴν δὲ χολωσαμένη χρυσήνιος Ἄρτεμις ἔκτα.  
 Ἱππόλοχος δέ μ' ἔτικτε, καὶ ἐκ τοῦ φημι γενέσθαι·  
 πέμπε δέ μ' ἐς Τροίην, καί μοι μάλα πόλλ' ἐπέτελλεν,  
 αἰὲν ἀριστεύειν καὶ ὑπείροχον ἔμμεναι ἄλλων,  
 μηδὲ γένος πατέρων αἰσχυνέμεν, οἳ μέγ' ἀριστοι  
 210 ἓν τ' Ἐφύρη ἐγένοντο καὶ ἐν Λυκίῃ εὐρείῃ.



## BOOK 6

dience to the portents of the gods. Next he fought with the glorious Solymi, and this, he said, was the mightiest battle of warriors he had ever entered; and thirdly he slew the Amazons, women the peers of men. And against him, as he was coming back, the king wove another clever ruse; he chose out of wide Lycia the best men and set an ambush; but these returned not home at all, for incomparable Bellerophon slew them one and all. But when the king recognized that he was the powerful offspring of a god, he kept him there, and offered him his own daughter, and gave him half of all his kingly honor; moreover the Lycians measured out for him an estate excellent above all others, a fair tract of orchard and of plough land for him to enjoy. And the lady bore to battle-minded Bellerophon three children, Isander and Hippolochus and Laodameia. With Laodameia lay Zeus the counselor, and she bore godlike Sarpedon, the warrior clad in bronze. But when Bellerophon in his turn came to be hated by all the gods, then it happened that he wandered alone over the Aleian plain, eating his heart out, and shunning the paths of men; and Isander his son was slain by Ares, insatiate of battle, as he fought against the glorious Solymi; and his daughter was slain in wrath by Artemis of the golden reins. But Hippolochus begot me and from him I say I am sprung; and he sent me to Troy and earnestly charged me always to be bravest and preeminent above all, and not to bring shame on the race of my fathers, who were far the best in Ephyre

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<sup>7</sup> ὄφρα νέμοιτο: πυροφόροιο.

ταύτης τοι γενεῆς τε καὶ αἵματος εὐχομαι εἶναι.”

- “Ὡς φάτο, γήθησεν δὲ βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
 ἔγχος μὲν κατέπηξεν ἐπὶ χθονὶ πουλυβοτείρῃ,  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ μελιχίοισι προσηύδα ποιμένα λαῶν·  
 215 “ἦ ρά νύ μοι ξεῖνος πατρώϊός ἐσσι παλαιός·  
 Οἶνεὺς γάρ ποτε δῖος ἀμύμονα Βελλεροφόντην  
 ξείνισ’ ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἐείκοσιν ἤματ’ ἐρύξας·  
 οἱ δὲ καὶ ἀλλήλοισι πόρον ξεινήια καλά·  
 Οἶνεὺς μὲν ζωστήῃρα δίδου φοίνικι φαεινόν,  
 220 Βελλεροφόντης δὲ χρύσειον δέπας ἀμφικύπελλον,  
 καί μιν ἐγὼ κατέλειπον ἰὼν ἐν δώμασ’ ἐμοῖσι.  
 Τυδεά δ’ οὐ μέμνημαι, ἐπεὶ μ’ ἔτι τυτθὸν ἐόντα  
 κάλλιφ’, ὅτ’ ἐν Θήβησιν ἀπώλετο λαὸς Ἀχαιῶν.  
 τῷ νῦν σοὶ μὲν ἐγὼ ξεῖνος φίλος Ἄργεϊ μέσσω  
 225 εἰμί, σὺ δ’ ἐν Λυκίῃ, ὅτε κεν τῶν δῆμον ἴκωμαι.  
 ἔγχεα δ’ ἀλλήλων<sup>8</sup> ἀλεώμεθα καὶ δι’ ὀμίλου·  
 πολλοὶ μὲν γὰρ ἐμοὶ Τρῶες κλειτοὶ τ’ ἐπίκουροι,  
 κτείνειν ὃν κε θεός γε πόρῃ καὶ ποσσὶ κιχείω,  
 πολλοὶ δ’ αὖ σοὶ Ἀχαιοὶ ἐναιρέμεν ὃν κε δύνηαι.  
 230 τεύχεα δ’ ἀλλήλοισι ἐπαμείβομεν, ὄφρα καὶ οἶδε  
 γνῶσιν ὅτι ξεῖνοι πατρώιοι εὐχόμεθ’ εἶναι.”

- “Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσαντε, καθ’ ἵππων αἶξαντε,  
 χεῖράς τ’ ἀλλήλων λαβέτην καὶ πιστώσαντο·  
 ἔνθ’ αὖτε Γλαύκῳ Κρονίδης φρένας ἐξέλετο Ζεὺς,  
 235 ὃς πρὸς Τυδεΐδην Διομήδεα τεύχε’ ἄμειβε  
 χρύσεια χαλκείων, ἐκατόμβοι’ ἐννεαβοίων.

<sup>8</sup> ἔγχεα δ’ ἀλλήλων: ἔγχεσι δ’ ἀλλήλους Zenodotus.

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and in wide Lycia. This is the lineage and the blood of which I declare I am sprung."

So he spoke, and Diomedes, good at the war cry, rejoiced. He planted his spear in the bounteous earth, and with gentle words spoke to the shepherd of men: "Well then, you are a friend of my father's house of long standing: for noble Oeneus once entertained incomparable Bellerophon in his halls, and kept him twenty days; and moreover they gave one another fair gifts of friendship. Oeneus gave a belt bright with scarlet, and Bellerophon a two-handled cup of gold which I left in my palace as I came here. But Tydeus I remember not, since I was but a little child when he left, at the time the army of the Achaeans perished at Thebes. Therefore now I am a dear guest-friend to you in the center of Argos, and you to me in Lycia, whenever I come to the land of that people. So let us shun one another's spears even among the throng; for there are many for me to slay, both Trojans and famed allies, whomever a god shall grant me and my feet overtake; and many Achaeans in turn for you to slay, whomever you can. And let us make an exchange of armor with each other, so that these men too may know that we declare ourselves to be friends from our fathers' days."

When they had thus spoken, the two leapt down from their chariots and clasped each other's hands and pledged their faith. And then from Glaucus did Zeus, son of Cronos, take away his senses, in that he made exchange of armor with Diomedes, son of Tydeus, giving golden for bronze, the worth of one hundred oxen for the worth of nine.

Ἐκτωρ δ' ὡς Σκαιάς τε πύλας καὶ φηγὸν<sup>9</sup> ἵκανε,  
 ἀμφ' ἄρα μιν Τρώων ἄλοχοι θεὸν ἠδὲ θύγατρες  
 εἰρόμεναι παῖδός τε κασιγνήτους τε ἕτας τε  
 240 καὶ πόσιας· ὁ δ' ἔπειτα θεοῖς εὐχέσθαι ἀνώγει  
 πάσας ἐξείης· πολλῇσι δὲ κήδε' ἐφήπτο.

Ἄλλ' ὅτε δὴ Πριάμοιο δόμον περικαλλέ' ἵκανε,  
 ξεστῆς αἰθούσῃσι τετυγμένον—αὐτὰρ ἐν αὐτῷ  
 πεντήκοντ' ἔνεσαν θάλαμοι ξεστοῖο λίθοιο,  
 245 πλησίον ἀλλήλων δεδμημένοι· ἔνθα δὲ παῖδες  
 κοιμῶντο Πριάμοιο παρὰ μνηστῆς ἀλόχοισι·  
 κουράων δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐναντίοι ἔνδοθεν αὐλῆς  
 δώδεκ' ἔσαν τέγες θάλαμοι ξεστοῖο λίθοιο,  
 πλησίον ἀλλήλων δεδμημένοι· ἔνθα δὲ γαμβροὶ  
 250 κοιμῶντο Πριάμοιο παρ' αἰδοίης ἀλόχοισιν—  
 ἔνθα οἱ ἠπιόδωρος ἐναντίῃ ἤλυθε μήτηρ  
 Λαοδίκην ἐσάγουσα, θυγατρῶν εἶδος ἀρίστην·  
 ἔν τ' ἄρα οἱ φῦ χειρὶ ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·  
 “τέκνον, τίπτε λιπὼν πόλεμον θρασὺν εἰλήλουθας;  
 255 ἦ μάλα δὴ τείρουσι δυσώνυμοι νῆες Ἀχαιῶν  
 μαρνάμενοι περὶ ἄστυ· σὲ δ' ἐνθάδε θυμὸς ἀνῆκεν  
 ἔλθόντ' ἐξ ἄκρης πόλιος Διὶ χεῖρας ἀνασχεῖν.  
 ἀλλὰ μὲν, ὄφρα κέ τοι μελιηδέα οἶνον ἐνείκω,  
 ὥς σπείσης Διὶ πατρὶ καὶ ἄλλοις ἀθανάτοισι  
 260 πρῶτον, ἔπειτα δὲ καὐτὸς ὀνήσῃαι, αἶ κε πίησθα.  
 ἀνδρὶ δὲ κεκμηῶτι μένος μέγα οἶνος ἀέξει,  
 ὥς τύνῃ κέκμηκας ἀμύνων σοῖσιν ἔτησι.”

Τὴν δ' ἠμείβετ' ἔπειτα μέγας κορυθαίολος Ἐκτωρ·  
 “μή μοι οἶνον ἄειρε μελίφρονα, πότνια μήτηρ,

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But when Hector came to the Scaean gates and the oak tree, round about him came running the wives and daughters of the Trojans asking about their sons and brothers and friends and husbands. But he then commanded all of them in turn to make prayer to the gods; over many were sorrows hung.

But when he came to the beautiful house of Priam, adorned with polished colonnades—and in it were fifty chambers of polished stone, built close to one another; in them the sons of Priam slept beside their wedded wives; and for his daughters on the other side opposite inside the court were twelve roofed chambers of polished stone, built close to one another; in them Priam's sons-in-law slept beside their respected wives—there his mother of kindly gifts came to meet him, leading in Laodice, fairest of her daughters; and she clasped him by the hand and spoke and addressed him: "My child, why have you left the fierce battle and come here? It must be that the sons of the Achaeans, of evil name, are pressing hard on you as they fight about our city, and your heart has set you on to come here and lift up your hands to Zeus from the citadel. But stay till I have brought you honey-sweet wine so that you may pour libation to Zeus and the other immortals first, and then you shall yourself have benefit of it also, if you will drink. When a man is weary with toil, wine greatly increases his force, just as you are weary with defending your fellows."

In answer to her spoke great Hector of the flashing helmet: "Bring me no honey-hearted wine, queenly mother,

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<sup>9</sup> φηγὸν: πύργον.

- 265 μή μ' ἀπογυνώσῃς, μένεος δ' ἀλκῆς τε λάθωμαι·  
 χερσὶ δ' ἀνίπτοισιν Διὶ λείβειν αἶθοπα οἶνον  
 ἄζομαι· οὐδέ πη ἔστι κελαινεφεί Κρονίωνι  
 αἵματι καὶ λύθρῳ πεπαλαγμένον εὐχετάασθαι.  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν πρὸς νηὸν Ἀθηναίης ἀγελείης
- 270 ἔρχεο σὺν θυέεσσιν, ἀολλίσσασα γεραιάς·  
 πέπλον δ', ὅς τις τοι χαριέστατος ἦδὲ μέγιστος  
 ἔστιν ἐνὶ μεγάρῳ καὶ τοι πολὺν φίλτατος αὐτῇ,  
 τὸν θὲς Ἀθηναίης ἐπὶ γούνασιν ἠνκόμοιο,  
 καὶ οἱ ὑποσχέσθαι δυοκαίδεκα βοῦς ἐνὶ νηῶ
- 275 ἥνις ἠκέστας ἱερευσέμεν, αἶ κ' ἐλεήσῃ  
 ἄστυ τε καὶ Τρώων ἀλόχους καὶ νήπια τέκνα,  
 αἶ κεν Τυδέος νιὸν ἀπόσχη Ἴλίου ἱρής,  
 ἄγριον αἰχμητήν, κρατερὸν μῆστωρα φόβοιο.  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν πρὸς νηὸν Ἀθηναίης ἀγελείης
- 280 ἔρχεο, ἐγὼ δὲ Πάριν μετελεύσομαι ὄφρα καλέσσω,  
 αἶ κ' ἐθέλῃσ' εἰπόντος ἀκουέμεν· ὥς κέ οἱ αὖθι  
 γαῖα χάνοι· μέγα γάρ μιν Ὀλύμπιος ἔτρεφε πῆμα  
 Τρωσὶ τε καὶ Πριάμῳ μεγαλήτορι τοιό τε παισίν.  
 εἰ κείνόν γε ἴδοιμι κατελθόντ' Ἀΐδος εἴσω,
- 285 φαίην κεν φίλον ἦτορ<sup>10</sup> οἰζύος ἐκκλελαθέσθαι.”  
 ὧς ἔφαθ', ἥ δὲ μολοῦσα ποτὶ μέγαρ' ἀμφιπόλοισι  
 κέκλετο· ταὶ δ' ἄρ' ἀόλλισσαν κατὰ ἄστυ γεραιάς.  
 αὐτὴ δ' ἐς θάλαμον κατεβήσετο κηώεντα,  
 ἔνθ' ἔσαν οἱ πέπλοι παμποίκιλα ἔργα γυναικῶν
- 290 Σιδονίων, τὰς αὐτὸς Ἀλέξανδρος θεοειδὴς

<sup>10</sup> κεν φίλον ἦτορ Zenodotus: κε φρέν' ἀτέρπου MSS.

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lest you cripple me, and I be forgetful of my force and my valor; moreover with hands unwashed I dare not pour libation of ruddy wine to Zeus; nor is it in any way possible for a man to make prayer to the son of Cronos, lord of the dark clouds, all befouled with blood and filth. But you go to the shrine of Athene, driver of the spoil, with burnt offerings, when you have gathered together the older women; and the robe that seems to you the fairest and amplest in your hall, and that is much the most dear to you yourself, this lay on the knees of fair-haired Athene, and vow to her that you will sacrifice in her shrine twelve year-old heifers that have not felt the goad, in the hope that she will have compassion on the city and the Trojans' wives and their little ones; in hope that she may hold back from sacred Ilios the son of Tydeus, that savage spearman, a mighty deviser of rout. So go to the shrine of Athene, driver of the spoil; and I will go after Paris, to summon him, to see if perhaps he will listen to what I say. I wish that the earth would gape for him at once! For the Olympian has reared him as a great bane to the Trojans and great-hearted Priam, and to the sons of Priam. If I should see him going down to the house of Hades, then I would say that my heart had forgotten its grief."

So he spoke, and she went to the hall and called to her handmaids; and they gathered together the older women throughout the city. But the queen herself went down to the vaulted treasure chamber where were her robes, richly embroidered, the handiwork of Sidonian women, whom godlike Alexander had himself brought from Sidon,

ἤγαγε Σιδονίηθεν, ἐπιπλὼς εὐρέα πόντον,  
 τὴν ὁδὸν ἣν Ἑλένην περ ἀνήγαγεν εὐπατέρειαν.  
 τῶν ἔν' αἰεραμένη Ἑκάβη φέρε δῶρον Ἀθήνῃ,  
 ὃς κάλλιστος ἔην ποικίλμασιν ἡδὲ μέγιστος,  
 295 ἀστὴρ δ' ὥς ἀπέλαμπεν· ἔκειτο δὲ νεΐατος ἄλλων.  
 βῆ δ' ἰέναι, πολλαὶ δὲ μετεσσεύοντο γεραιαί.

Αἰ δ' ὅτε νηὸν ἵκανον Ἀθήνης ἐν πόλει ἄκρῃ,  
 τῇσι θύρας ὤϊξε Θεανὼ καλλιπάρῃος,  
 Κισσηΐς, ἄλοχος Ἀντήνορος ἵπποδάμοιο·  
 300 τὴν γὰρ Τρῶες ἔθηκαν Ἀθηναίης ἰέρειαν.  
 αἰ δ' ὀλολυγῇ πᾶσαι Ἀθήνῃ χεῖρας ἀνέσχον·  
 ἡ δ' ἄρα πέπλον ἐλοῦσα Θεανὼ καλλιπάρῃος  
 θῆκεν Ἀθηναίης ἐπὶ γούνασιν ἡνκόμοιο,  
 εὐχομένη δ' ἡρᾶτο Διὸς κούρῃ μεγάλῳ·  
 305 “πότνι' Ἀθηναίη, ῥυσίπτολι, δῖα θεάων,  
 ἄξον δὴ ἔγχος Διομήδεος, ἡδὲ καὶ αὐτὸν  
 πρηνέα δὸς πεσέειν Σκαιῶν προπάροιθε πυλάων,  
 ὄφρα τοι αὐτίκα νῦν δυοκαίδεκα βοῦς ἐνὶ νηῷ  
 ἦνις ἡκέστας ἱερεύσομεν, αἶ κ' ἐλεήσης  
 310 ἄστυ τε καὶ Τρώων ἀλόχους καὶ νήπια τέκνα.”  
 ὥς ἔφατ' εὐχομένη, ἀνένευε δὲ Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη.<sup>11</sup>

Ὡς αἰ μὲν ῥ' εὐχοντο Διὸς κούρῃ μεγάλῳ,  
 Ἔκτωρ δὲ πρὸς δώματ' Ἀλεξάνδροιο βεβήκει  
 καλά, τὰ ῥ' αὐτὸς ἔτευξε σὺν ἀνδράσιν οἳ τότε ἄριστοι  
 315 ἦσαν ἐνὶ Τροίῃ ἐριβώλακι τέκτονες ἄνδρες.  
 οἳ οἳ ἐποίησαν θάλαμον καὶ δῶμα καὶ αὐλὴν  
 ἐγγύθι τε Πριάμοιο καὶ Ἑκτορος, ἐν πόλει ἄκρῃ.  
 ἔνθ' Ἔκτωρ εἰσῆλθε διφίλος, ἐν δ' ἄρα χειρὶ



as he sailed over the wide sea on that journey on which he brought back high-born Helen. Of these Hecabe took one, and brought it as an offering for Athene, the one that was fairest in its embroiderings and amplest, and shone like a star, and lay beneath all the rest. Then she set out to go, and the throng of older women hurried after her.

When they came to the shrine of Athene in the citadel, the doors were opened for them by fair-cheeked Theano, Cisses' daughter, wife of Antenor, tamer of horses; for her had the Trojans made priestess of Athene. Then with ecstatic cries they all lifted up their hands to Athene; and fair-cheeked Theano took the robe and laid it on the knees of fair-haired Athene, and with vows made prayer to the daughter of great Zeus: "Lady Athene, you who guard our city, fairest among goddesses, break now the spear of Diomedes, and grant also that he himself may fall head-long before the Scaean gates, so that we may now immediately sacrifice to you in your shrine twelve year-old heifers that have not felt the goad, if you will take pity on the city and the Trojans' wives and their little ones." So she spoke praying, but Pallas Athene denied the prayer.

Thus were they praying to the daughter of great Zeus, but Hector had gone to the house of Alexander, the fair house that he himself had built with the men who were at that time the best builders in deep-soiled Troy; they had made him a chamber and hall and court hard by the houses of Priam and Hector in the citadel. There Hector, dear to Zeus, entered in and in his hand he held a spear of eleven

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<sup>11</sup> Line 311 was rejected by Aristarchus.

- 320 ἔγχος ἔχ' ἐνδεκάπηχυν· πάροιθε δὲ λάμπετο δουρὸς  
 αἰχμὴ χαλκείη, περὶ δὲ χρύσεος θέε πόρκης.  
 τὸν δ' εὖρ' ἐν θαλάμῳ περικαλλέα τεύχε' ἔποντα,  
 ἀσπίδα καὶ θώρηκα, καὶ ἀγκύλα τόξ' ἀφώοντα·  
 Ἀργεῖη δ' Ἑλένη μετ' ἄρα δμῳῇσι γυναιξὶν  
 ἦστο, καὶ ἀμφιπόλοισι περικλυτὰ ἔργα κέλευε.  
 325 τὸν δ' Ἔκτωρ νείκεσσε· ἰδὼν αἰσχροῖς ἐπέεσσιν·  
 “δαιμόνι', οὐ μὲν καλὰ χόλον τόνδ' ἔνθεο θυμῷ.  
 λαοὶ μὲν φθινύθουσι περὶ πτόλιν αἰπύ τε τείχος  
 μαρνάμενοι· σέο δ' εἵνεκ' αὐτὴ τε πτόλεμός τε  
 ἄστυ τόδ' ἀμφιδέδηκε· σὺ δ' ἂν μαχέσαιο καὶ ἄλλῳ,  
 330 ὃν τινά που μεθιέντα ἴδοις στυγεροῦ πολέμοιο.  
 ἀλλ' ἄνα, μὴ τάχα ἄστυ πυρὸς δηίοιο θέρηται.”  
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπεν Ἀλέξανδρος θεοειδής·  
 “Ἔκτορ, ἐπεὶ με κατ' αἶσαν ἐνείκεσας οὐδ' ὑπὲρ αἶσαν,  
 τοῦνεκά τοι ἐρέω· σὺ δὲ σύνθεο καὶ μὲν ἄκουσον.  
 335 οὐ τοι ἐγὼ Τρώων τόσπον χόλῳ οὐδὲ νεμέσσι  
 ἤμην ἐν θαλάμῳ, ἔθελον δ' ἄχεϊ προτραπέσθαι.  
 νῦν δέ με παρειποῦς' ἄλοχος μαλακοῖς ἐπέεσσιν  
 ὄρμησ' ἐς πόλεμον· δοκέει δέ μοι ᾧδε καὶ αὐτῷ  
 λώιον ἔσσεσθαι· νίκη δ' ἐπαμείβεται ἄνδρας.  
 340 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν ἐπίμεινον, ἀρήια τεύχεα δύω·  
 ἢ ἴθ', ἐγὼ δὲ μέτειμι· κιχήσεσθαι δέ σ' οἴω.”  
 ὣς φάτο, τὸν δ' οὐ τι προσέφη κορυθαίολος  
 Ἔκτωρ·  
 τὸν δ' Ἑλένη μύθοισι προσηύδα μελιχίοισιν·  
 “δᾶερ ἐμείο κυνὸς κακομηχάνου ὀκρυοέσσης,  
 345 ὥς μ' ὄφελ' ἤματι τῷ ὅτε με πρῶτον τέκε μήτηρ

## BOOK 6

cubits, and before him blazed the spear-point of bronze, around which ran a ring of gold. He found Paris in his chamber busied with his beautiful arms, his shield and his corselet, and handling his curved bow; and Argive Helen sat among her serving women and was assigning to them their glorious handiwork. And at sight of him Hector rebuked him with reproachful words: "Strange man, it is not good to nurse this anger in your heart. Your people are perishing around the city and the steep wall in battle, and it is because of you that the battle cry and the war are ablaze about this city; you would yourself reproach any other whom you might see shrinking from hateful war. But get up, lest soon the city blaze with consuming fire."

And to him did godlike Alexander make answer, saying: "Hector, since you rebuke me rightly, and not beyond what is right, therefore will I tell you; and do you reflect and listen to me. Not so much because of wrath and indignation against the Trojans sat I in my chamber, but I was minded to give myself over to sorrow. Just now my wife sought to turn my mind with gentle words and urged me to the war; and I myself think that it will be better so; victory shifts from man to man. But come now, wait a while, let me put on my war gear; or go, and I will follow; and I think I shall overtake you."

So said he, and Hector of the flashing helmet answered him not a word, but to him spoke Helen with gentle words: "O brother of me that am a dog, a contriver of mischief and abhorred by all, I wish that on the day when first my

οἷχεσθαι προφέρουσα κακὴ ἀνέμοιο θύελλα  
 εἰς ὄρος ἢ εἰς κῦμα πολυφλοίσβοιο θαλάσσης,  
 ἔνθα με κῦμ' ἀπόερσε πάρος τάδε ἔργα γενέσθαι.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ τάδε γ' ὦδε θεοὶ κακὰ τεκμήρανο,  
 350 ἀνδρὸς ἔπειτ' ὤφελλον ἀμείνωνος εἶναι ἄκοιτις,  
 ὃς ἤδη νέμεσιν τε καὶ αἴσχεα πόλλ' ἀνθρώπων.  
 τούτῳ δ' οὐτ' ἄρ νῦν φρένες ἔμπεδοι οὐτ' ἄρ' ὀπίσσω  
 ἔσσονται· τῷ καὶ μιν ἐπαυρήσεσθαι οἶω.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν εἴσελθε καὶ ἔζεο τῷδ' ἐπὶ δίφρῳ,  
 355 δᾶερ, ἐπεὶ σε μάλιστα πόνος φρένας ἀμφιβέβηκεν  
 εἵνεκ' ἐμείο κυνὸς καὶ Ἀλεξάνδρου ἔνεκ' ἄτης,<sup>12</sup>  
 οἷσιν ἐπὶ Ζεὺς θῆκε κακὸν μόρον, ὥς καὶ ὀπίσσω  
 ἀνθρώποισι πελώμεθ' ἀοίδιμοι ἐσσομένοισι.”

Τὴν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα μέγας κορυθαίολος Ἑκτωρ·  
 360 “μή με κάθιζ', Ἑλένη, φιλέουσά περ· οὐδέ με πείσεις·  
 ἤδη γάρ μοι θυμὸς ἐπέσσυται ὄφρ' ἐπαμύνω  
 Τρώεσσ', οἳ μέγ' ἐμείο ποθὴν ἀπεόντος ἔχουσιν.  
 ἀλλὰ σύ γ' ὄρνυθι τοῦτον, ἐπειγέσθω δὲ καὶ αὐτός,  
 ὥς κεν ἔμ' ἔντοσθεν πόλιος καταμάρψῃ ἐόντα.  
 365 καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼν οἰκόνδε ἐλεύσομαι, ὄφρα ἴδωμαι  
 οἰκῆας ἄλοχόν τε φίλην καὶ νήπιον υἱόν.  
 οὐ γὰρ οἶδ' εἰ ἔτι σφιν ὑπότροπος ἴξομαι αὐτῖς,  
 ἢ ἤδη μ' ὑπὸ χερσὶ θεοὶ δαμόωσιν Ἀχαιῶν.”

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας ἀπέβη κορυθαίολος Ἑκτωρ·  
 370 αἶψα δ' ἔπειθ' ἵκανε δόμους εὖ ναιετάοντας,  
 οὐδ' εὖρ' Ἀνδρομάχην λευκώλενον ἐν μεγάροισιν,  
 ἀλλ' ἢ γε ξὺν παιδὶ καὶ ἀμφιπόλῳ ἐνπέπλῳ  
 πύργῳ ἐφειστήκει γοόωσά τε μυρομένη τε.

mother gave me birth an evil blast of wind had carried me away to some mountain or to the wave of the loud-resounding sea, where the wave would have swept me away before these things came to pass. But, since the gods so ordained these ills, I wish that I had been wife to a better man, who could feel the indignation of his fellows and their many revilings. But this man's understanding is not now firm, nor ever will be hereafter; of it he will, I think, enjoy also the fruits. But come now, enter in, and sit on this chair, my brother, since above all others has trouble encompassed your mind because of shameless me, and the folly of Alexander; on us Zeus has brought an evil doom, so that even in days to come we may be a song for men that are yet to be."

Then made answer to her great Hector of the flashing helmet: "Do not have me sit, Helen, though you love me; you will not persuade me. For my heart is already impatient to assist the Trojans, who greatly long for me in my absence. But rouse this man, and let him make haste on his own, so that he may overtake me while I am still inside the city. For I shall go home to see my servants, my dear wife, and my infant son; for I know not if any more I shall return home to them again, or if even now the gods will vanquish me at the hands of the Achaeans."

So saying, Hector of the flashing helmet went away, and came quickly to his well-built house. But he found not white-armed Andromache in his halls; she with her child and a fair-robed handmaid had gone to stand on the wall,

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<sup>12</sup> ἄττης: ἀρχῆς Zenodotus (cf. 3. 100).

- Ἔκτωρ δ' ὥς οὐκ ἔνδον ἀμύμονα τέτμεν ἄκοιτιν,  
 375 ἔσθῃ ἐπ' οὐδὸν ἰών, μετὰ δὲ δμῳῇσιν ἔειπεν·  
 “εἰ δ' ἄγε μοι, δμῳαί, νημερτέα μυθήσασθε·  
 πῇ ἔβῃ Ἀνδρομάχῃ λευκώλενος ἐκ μεγάροιο;  
 ἢ ἐπὶ πῇ ἐς γαλόων ἢ εἰνατέρων ἐνπέπλων,  
 ἢ ἐς Ἀθηναίης ἐξοίχεται, ἔνθα περ ἄλλαι  
 380 Τρῳαὶ ἐνπλόκαμοι δεινὴν θεὸν ἰλάσκονται;”  
 Τὸν δ' αὖτ' ὀτρηνῇ ταμίῃ πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·  
 “Ἔκτορ, ἐπεὶ μάλ' ἄνωγας ἀληθέα μυθήσασθαι,  
 οὔτε πῇ ἐς γαλόων οὔτ' εἰνατέρων ἐνπέπλων  
 οὔτ' ἐς Ἀθηναίης ἐξοίχεται, ἔνθα περ ἄλλαι  
 385 Τρῳαὶ ἐνπλόκαμοι δεινὴν θεὸν ἰλάσκονται,  
 ἀλλ' ἐπὶ πύργον ἔβῃ μέγαν Ἴλιου, οὐνεκ' ἀκουσε  
 τείρεσθαι Τρῶας, μέγα δὲ κράτος εἶναι Ἀχαιῶν.  
 ἢ μὲν δὴ πρὸς τείχος ἐπειγομένη ἀφικάνει,  
 μαινομένη ἐικυία· φέρει δ' ἅμα παῖδα τιθήνη.”  
 390 Ἡ ῥα γυνὴ ταμίῃ, ὃ δ' ἀπέσσυτο δώματος Ἔκτωρ  
 τὴν αὐτὴν ὁδὸν αὖτις ἐνκτιμένας κατ' ἀγυιάς.  
 εὔτε πύλας ἵκανε διερχόμενος μέγα ἄστν  
 Σκαιάς, τῇ ἄρ' ἔμελλε διεξίμεναι πεδίωνδε,  
 ἔνθ' ἄλοχος πολύδωρος ἐναντίῃ ἦλθε θέουσα  
 395 Ἀνδρομάχῃ, θυγάτηρ μεγαλήτορος Ἡετίωνος,  
 Ἡετίων, ὃς ἔναιεν ὑπὸ Πλάκῃ ὑλήεσση,  
 Θήβῃ Ὑποπλακίῃ, Κιλίκεσσ' ἀνδρεσσιν ἀνάσσω·  
 τοῦ περ δὴ θυγάτηρ ἔχεθ' Ἔκτορι χαλκοκορυστῇ.  
 ἢ οἱ ἔπειτ' ἦντησ', ἅμα δ' ἀμφίπολος κίεν αὐτῇ  
 400 παῖδ' ἐπὶ κόλπῳ ἔχουσ' ἀταλάφρονα, νήπιον αὐτῶς,  
 Ἔκτορίδην ἀγαπητόν, ἀλίγκιον ἀστέρι καλῶ,

weeping and wailing. So Hector, when he found not his incomparable wife inside, went and stood on the threshold, and spoke among the serving women: "Come now, serving women, tell me true; where went white-armed Andromache from the hall? Is she gone to the house of any of my sisters or my brothers' fair-robed wives, or to the shrine of Athene, where the other fair-tressed women of Troy are seeking to propitiate the dread goddess?"

Then a willing housekeeper spoke to him, saying: "Hector, since you urgently command us to tell you true, neither is she gone to any of your sisters or your brothers' fair-robed wives, nor to the shrine of Athene, where the other fair-tressed Trojan women are seeking to propitiate the dread goddess; but she went to the great wall of Ilios, because she heard that the Trojans were hard pressed, and great victory rested with the Achaeans. So she has gone in haste to the wall, like one beside herself; and with her the nurse is carrying the child."

So spoke the housekeeper, and Hector hurried from the house back over the same way down along the well-built streets. When he had passed through the great city and come to the gates, the Scaean gates, by which he was about to go out to the plain, there came running to meet him his wife, wooed with many gifts, Andromache, daughter of great-hearted Eëtion, Eëtion who dwelt beneath wooded Placus, in Thebe under Placus, and was lord over the men of Cilicia; for it was his daughter whom Hector, clad in bronze, had as wife. She now met him, and with her came a handmaid holding to her bosom the tender boy, a mere babe, the well-loved son of Hector, like a fair

- τόν ῥ' Ἑκτωρ καλέεσκε Σκαμάνδριον, αὐτὰρ οἱ ἄλλοι  
 Ἄστυάνακτ'· οἷος γὰρ ἐρύετο Ἴλιον Ἑκτωρ.  
 ἦ τοι ὁ μὲν μείδῃσεν ἰδὼν ἐς παῖδα σιωπῇ·  
 405 Ἀνδρομάχῃ δέ οἱ ἄγχι παρίστατο δάκρυ χέουσα,  
 ἐν τ' ἄρα οἱ φῦ χειρὶ ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·  
 “δαιμόνιε, φθίσει σε τὸ σὸν μένος, οὐδ' ἐλεαίρεις  
 παῖδά τε νηπίαχον καὶ ἔμ' ἄμμορον, ἦ τάχα χήρῃ  
 σεῦ ἔσομαι· τάχα γάρ σε κατακτανέουσιν Ἀχαιοὶ  
 410 πάντες ἐφορμηθέντες· ἐμοὶ δέ κε κέρδιον εἶη  
 σεῦ ἀφामαρτούσῃ χθόνα δύμεναι· οὐ γὰρ ἔτ' ἄλλη  
 ἔσται θαλπωρὴ, ἐπεὶ ἂν σύ γε πότμον ἐπίσπης,  
 ἀλλ' ἄχε'· οὐδέ μοι ἔστι πατὴρ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ.  
 ἦ τοι γὰρ πατέρ' ἀμὸν ἀπέκτανε δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς,  
 415 ἐκ δὲ πόλιν πέρσεν Κιλικῶν ἐν ναιετάουσιν,  
 Θήβην ὑψίπυλον· κατὰ δ' ἔκτανεν Ἡετίωνα,  
 οὐδέ μιν ἐξενάριξε, σεβάσσατο γὰρ τό γε θυμῷ,  
 ἀλλ' ἄρα μιν κατέκχε σὺν ἔντεσι δαιδαλέοισιν  
 ἡδ' ἐπὶ σῆμ' ἔχεεν· περὶ δὲ πτελέας ἐφύτευσαν  
 420 νύμφαι ὀρεστιάδες, κοῦραι Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο.  
 οἱ δέ μοι ἐπὶ κασίγνητοι ἔσαν ἐν μεγάροισιν,  
 οἱ μὲν πάντες ἰῶ κίον ἡματι Ἄϊδος εἴσω·  
 πάντας γὰρ κατέπεφνε ποδάρκης δῖος Ἀχιλλεὺς  
 βουσὶν ἐπ' εἰλιπόδεσσι καὶ ἀργεννῆς οἴεσσι.  
 425 μητέρα δ' ἦ βασίλευεν ὑπὸ Πλάκῃ ὑληέσση,  
 τὴν ἐπεὶ ἄρ' δεῦρ' ἤγαγ' ἄμ' ἄλλοισι κτεάτεσσιν,  
 ἄψ ὃ γε τὴν ἀπέλυσε λαβὼν ἀπερείσι' ἄποινα,  
 πατρὸς δ' ἐν μεγάροισι βάλ' Ἄρτεμις ἰοχέαιρα.  
 Ἑκτορ, ἀτὰρ σύ μοι ἔσσι πατὴρ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ



star. Him Hector was used to call Scamandrius, but other men Astyanax; for only Hector guarded Ilios. Then Hector smiled as he glanced at his boy in silence, but Andromache came close to his side weeping, and clasped his hand and spoke to him, saying: "Ah, my husband, this might of yours will be your doom, and you have no pity for your infant child or for unfortunate me, who soon will be your widow; for soon will the Achaeans all set on you and slay you. But for me it would be better to go down to the grave if I lose you, for never more will any comfort be mine, when you have met your fate, but only woes. Neither father have I nor queenly mother. My father noble Achilles slew, and utterly laid waste the well-peopled city of the Cilicians, Thebe of the lofty gates. He slew Eëtion, but he stripped him not of his armor, for he shrank from doing that; but he burnt him in his elaborate armor, and heaped over him a mound; and all about were elm trees planted by nymphs of the mountain, daughters of Zeus who bears the aegis. And the seven brothers of mine in our halls, all these on the very same day entered into the house of Hades, for all were slain by swift-footed, noble Achilles, among their cattle of shambling gait and their white-fleeced sheep. And my mother, who was queen beneath wooded Placus, her brought he here with the rest of the booty, but he set her free again, when he had taken ransom past counting; and in her father's halls Artemis the archer slew her. Hector, you are to me father and queenly mother, you are brother,

- 430 ἥδ' ἐ κασίγνητος, σὺ δέ μοι θαλερὸς παρακοίτης·  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε νῦν ἐλέαιρε καὶ αὐτοῦ μίμν' ἐπὶ πύργῳ,  
 μὴ παῖδ' ὀρφανικὸν θήγης χήρην τε γυναῖκα·  
 λαὸν δὲ στῆσον παρ' ἐρινεόν, ἔνθα μάλιστα<sup>13</sup>  
 ἀμβατός ἐστι πόλις καὶ ἐπιδρομον ἔπλετο τείχος.  
 435 τρὶς γὰρ τῇ γ' ἐλθόντες ἐπειρήσανθ' οἱ ἄριστοι  
 ἀμφ' Αἴαντε δύνω καὶ ἀγακλυτὸν Ἰδομενῆα  
 ἥδ' ἀμφ' Ἀτρεΐδας καὶ Τυδέος ἄλκιμον υἱόν·  
 ἥ πού τις σφιν ἔνισπε θεοπροπίων ἐν εἰδώς,  
 ἥ νυ καὶ αὐτῶν θυμὸς ἐποτρύνει καὶ ἀνώγει."  
 440 Τὴν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε μέγας κορυθαίολος Ἔκτωρ·  
 "ἦ καὶ ἐμοὶ τάδε πάντα μέλει, γύναι· ἀλλὰ μάλ' αἰνῶς  
 αἰδέομαι Τρώας καὶ Τρωάδας ἐλκεσιπέπλους,  
 αἵ κε κακὸς ὥς νόσφιν ἀλυσκάζω πολέμοιο·  
 οὐδέ με θυμὸς ἄνωγεν, ἐπεὶ μάθον ἔμμεναι ἐσθλὸς  
 445 αἰεὶ καὶ πρότοισι μετὰ Τρώεσσι μάχεσθαι,  
 ἀρνύμενος πατρός τε μέγα κλέος ἥδ' ἐμὸν αὐτοῦ.  
 εὖ γὰρ ἐγὼ τόδε οἶδα κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμόν·  
 ἔσσεται ἡμᾶρ ὅτ' ἄν ποτ' ὀλώλῃ Ἴλιος ἱρὴ  
 καὶ Πριάμος καὶ λαὸς ἐυμμελίῳ Πριάμοιο.  
 450 ἀλλ' οὐ μοι Τρώων τόσσον μέλει ἄλγος ὀπίσσω,  
 οὔτ' αὐτῆς Ἑκάβης οὔτε Πριάμοιο ἄνακτος  
 οὔτε κασιγνήτων, οἳ κεν πολέες τε καὶ ἐσθλοὶ  
 ἐν κονίῃσι πέσοιεν ὑπ' ἀνδράσι δυσμενέεσσιν,  
 ὅσσον σεῦ, ὅτε κέν τις Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων  
 455 δακρυόεσσαν ἄγῃται, ἐλεύθερον ἡμᾶρ ἀπούρας.  
 καί κεν ἐν Ἀργεὶ εὐῶσα πρὸς ἄλλης ἰστὸν ὑφαίνοις,  
 καί κεν ὕδωρ φορέοις Μεσσηίδος ἢ Ὑπερείης

and you are my vigorous husband. Come now, have pity, and stay here on the wall, lest you make your son fatherless and your wife a widow. And for your army, station it by the wild fig tree, where the city may best be scaled, and the wall is open to assault. For thrice at this point came the best men in company with the two Aiantes and glorious Idomeneus and the sons of Atreus and the valiant son of Tydeus, and tried the walls: either someone well skilled in soothsaying told them, or perhaps their own heart urges and commands them to it."

Then spoke to her great Hector of the flashing helmet: "Woman, I too take thought of all this, but I dreadfully feel shame before the Trojans, and the Trojans' wives with trailing robes, if like a coward I skulk apart from the battle. Nor does my heart command it, since I have learnt to excel always and to fight among the foremost Trojans, striving to win great glory for my father and myself. For I know this well in my mind and heart: the day will come when sacred Ilios will fall, and Priam, and the people of Priam of the good ashen spear. But not so much does the grief that is to come to the Trojans move me, neither Hecabe's own, nor king Priam's, nor that of my brothers, many and noble, who will fall in the dust at the hands of their foes, as does your grief, when some bronze-clad Achaean will lead you away weeping and rob you of your day of freedom. Then perhaps in Argos will you ply the loom at another woman's bidding, or carry water from Messeïs or Hypereia, much

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<sup>13</sup> Lines 433–439 were rejected by Aristarchus.

- πόλλ' ἀεκαζομένη, κρατερὴ δ' ἐπικείσεται ἀνάγκη.  
 καὶ ποτέ τις εἶπησιν ἰδὼν κατὰ δάκρυ χέουσας·  
 460 "Ἐκτορος ἦδε γυνή, ὃς ἀριστεύεσκε μάχεσθαι  
 Τρώων ἵπποδάμων, ὅτε Ἴλιον ἀμφεμάχοντο."  
 ὥς ποτέ τις ἐρέει· σοὶ δ' αὖ νέον ἔσσεται ἄλγος  
 χήτεϊ τοιοῦδ' ἀνδρὸς ἀμύνειν δούλιον ἦμαρ.  
 ἀλλὰ με τεθνηῶτα χυτὴ κατὰ γαῖα καλύπτοι,  
 465 πρίν γέ τι σῆς τε βοῆς σου θ' ἐλκηθμοῖο πυθέσθαι."  
 ὣς εἰπὼν οὗ παιδὸς ὀρέξατο φαίδιμος Ἑκτωρ·  
 ἄψ δ' ὁ πάϊς πρὸς κόλπον ἐυζώνοιο τιθήνης  
 ἐκλίνθη ἰάχων, πατρὸς φίλου ὅψιν ἀτυχθεῖς,  
 ταρβήσας χαλκὸν τε ἰδὲ λόφον ἵππιοχαίτην,  
 470 δεινὸν ἀπ' ἀκροτάτης κόρυθος νεύοντα νοήσας.  
 ἐκ δ' ἐγέλασσε πατήρ τε φίλος καὶ πότνια μήτηρ·  
 αὐτίκ' ἀπὸ κρατὸς κόρυθ' εἴλετο φαίδιμος Ἑκτωρ,  
 καὶ τὴν μὲν κατέθηκεν ἐπὶ χθονὶ παμφανόωσαν·  
 αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ὄν φίλον υἱὸν ἐπεὶ κύσε πῆλέ τε χερσίν,  
 475 εἶπεν ἐπευξάμενος Δίι τ' ἄλλοισιν τε θεοῖσιν·  
 "Ζεῦ ἄλλοι τε θεοί, δότε δὴ καὶ τόνδε γενέσθαι  
 παῖδ' ἐμόν, ὥς καὶ ἐγὼ περ, ἀριπρεπέα Τρώεσσιν,  
 ὦδε βίην τ' ἀγαθόν, καὶ Ἰλίου ἱφί ἀνάσσειν·  
 καὶ ποτέ τις εἶποι 'πατρός γ' ὅδε πολλὸν ἀμείνων'  
 480 ἐκ πολέμου ἀνιόντα· φέροι δ' ἕναρα βροτόεντα  
 κτείνας δήιον ἄνδρα, χαρεῖη δὲ φρένα μήτηρ."  
 ὣς εἰπὼν ἀλόχοιο φίλης ἐν χερσὶν ἔθηκε  
 παῖδ' ἐόν· ἥ δ' ἄρα μιν κηῶδεϊ δέξατο κόλπῳ  
 δακρυόεν γελάσασα· πόσις δ' ἐλέησε νοήσας,  
 485 χειρὶ τέ μιν κατέρεξεν ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἕκ τ' ὀνόμαζε·

## BOOK 6

against your will, and strong necessity will be laid on you. And someone will say as he looks at you weeping: 'This is the wife of Hector, who was preeminent in fight above all the horse-taming Trojans when men were fighting around Ilios.' So will he say; and to you there will be fresh grief in your lack of a man like me to ward off the day of bondage. But may I lie dead, and may the heaped-up earth cover me, before I hear your cries as they drag you into captivity."

So saying, glorious Hector stretched out his arms to his boy, but back into the bosom of his fair-belted nurse shrank the child crying, frightened at the sight of his dear father, and seized with fear of the bronze and the crest of horse-hair, as he caught sight of it waving terribly from the top of the helmet. Aloud then laughed his dear father and queenly mother; and immediately glorious Hector took the helmet from his head and laid it all gleaming on the ground. And he kissed his dear son, and fondled him in his arms, and spoke in prayer to Zeus and the other gods: "Zeus and you other gods, grant that this my child may likewise prove, just like me, preeminent among the Trojans, and as good in strength, and that he may rule mightily over Ilios. And some day may some man say of him as he comes back from war, 'This one is better far than his father'; and may he carry the blood-stained spoils of the foeman he has slain, and may his mother's heart rejoice."

So saying, he placed his child in his dear wife's arms, and she took him to her fragrant bosom, smiling through her tears; and her husband was touched with pity at sight of her, and he stroked her with his hand, and spoke to her, and

“δαιμονίη, μή μοί τι λήην ἀκαχίζεο θυμῷ·  
οὐ γάρ τίς μ' ὑπὲρ αἶσαν ἀνὴρ Ἄϊδι προϊάψει·  
μοῖραν δ' οὐ τινά φημι πεφυγμένον ἔμμεναι ἀνδρῶν,  
οὐ κακόν, οὐδὲ μὲν ἐσθλόν, ἐπὴν τὰ πρῶτα γένηται.  
490 ἀλλ' εἰς οἶκον ἰοῦσα τὰ σ' αὐτῆς ἔργα κόμιζε,  
ἱστόν τ' ἡλακάτην τε, καὶ ἀμφιπόλοισι κέλευε  
ἔργον ἐποίχεσθαι· πόλεμος δ' ἀνδρεσσι μελήσει  
πᾶσι, μάλιστα δ' ἐμοί, τοῖ Ἰλίῳ ἐγγεγάασιν.”

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας κόρυθ' εἵλετο φαίδιμος Ἴκτωρ  
495 ἵππουριν· ἄλοχος δὲ φίλῃ οἰκόνδε βεβήκει  
ἐντροπαλιζομένη, θαλερὸν κατὰ δάκρυ χέουσα.  
αἶψα δ' ἔπειθ' ἵκανε δόμους εὖ ναιοτάοντας  
Ἴκτορος ἀνδροφόνοιο, κιχήσατο δ' ἐνδοθι πολλὰς  
ἀμφιπόλους, τῇσιν δὲ γόον πάσῃσιν ἐνῶρσεν.  
500 αἱ μὲν ἔτι ζῶν γόον Ἴκτορα ᾧ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ·  
οὐ γάρ μιν ἔτ' ἔφαντο ὑπότροπον ἐκ πολέμοιο  
ἵξεσθαι, προφυγόντα μένος καὶ χεῖρας Ἀχαιῶν.

Οὐδὲ Πάρις δῆθυνεν ἐν ὑψηλοῖσι δόμοισιν,  
ἀλλ' ὃ γ', ἐπεὶ κατέδυν κλυτὰ τεύχεα, ποικίλα χαλκῷ,  
505 σέυατ' ἔπειτ' ἀνὰ ἄστνυ, ποσὶ κραιπνοῖσι πεποιθώς.  
ὥς δ' ὅτε τις στατὸς ἵππος, ἀκοστήσας ἐπὶ φάτνῃ,  
δεσμὸν ἀπορρήξας θείῃ πεδίῳ κροαίνων,  
εἰωθὼς λούεσθαι ἐνρρεῖος ποταμοῖο,  
κνυδιῶν· ὑψοῦ δὲ κάρη ἔχει, ἀμφὶ δὲ χαῖται  
510 ὤμοις αἰσσοῦνται· ὃ δ' ἀγλαΐῃφι πεποιθώς,  
ρίμφα ἔ γούνα φέρει μετὰ τ' ἥθεα καὶ νομὸν ἵππων·  
ὥς νιὸς Πριάμοιο Πάρις κατὰ Περγάμου ἄκρης  
τεύχεσι παμφαίνων ὥς τ' ἡλέκτωρ ἐβεβήκει

## BOOK 6

called her by name: "Dear wife, in no way, I beg you, grieve excessively at heart for me; no man beyond what is fated shall send me to Hades; but his fate, say I, no man has ever escaped, whether he is base or noble, when once he has been born. But go to the house and busy yourself with your own tasks, the loom and the distaff, and tell your handmaids to ply their work: and war will be the concern for men, all of those who live in Ilios, but especially for me."

So spoke glorious Hector and took up his helmet with horsehair crest; and his dear wife went immediately to her house, often turning back, and shedding large tears. Quickly then she came to the well-built palace of man-slaying Hector and found there her many handmaids; and among them all she roused lamentation. So in his own house they made lament for Hector while still he lived; for they said that he would never more come back from battle, having escaped from the force and the hands of the Achaeans.

Nor did Paris delay long in his lofty house, but put on his glorious armor inlaid with bronze, and rushed through the city, trusting in his fleetness of foot. Just as when a stabled horse that has fed his fill at the manger breaks his halter and runs stamping over the plain—being accustomed to bathe in the fair-flowing river—and exults; high does he hold his head, and about his shoulders his mane floats streaming and, as he glories in his splendor, his legs nimbly bring him to the haunts and pastures of mares; just so Paris, son of Priam, strode down from high Pergamus, all gleaming in his armor like the shining sun, laughing aloud,

- καγχαλόων, ταχέες δὲ πόδες φέρον· αἶψα δ' ἔπειτα  
 515 Ἕκτορα δῖον ἔτετμεν ἀδελφεόν, εὖτ' ἄρ' ἔμελλε  
 στρέψεσθ' ἐκ χώρας ὅθι ἦ δάριζε γυναικί.  
 τὸν πρότερος προσέειπεν Ἀλέξανδρος θεοειδής·  
 “ἦθεί', ἦ μάλα δὴ σε καὶ ἐσσύμενον κατερύκω  
 δηθύνων, οὐδ' ἦλθον ἐναίσιμον, ὥς ἐκέλευες;”  
 520 Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη κορυθαίολος  
 Ἔκτωρ·  
 “δαιμόνι', οὐκ ἄν τις τοι ἀνὴρ, ὃς ἐναίσιμος εἴη,  
 ἔργον ἀτιμήσειε μάχης, ἐπεὶ ἄλκιμός ἐστι·  
 ἀλλὰ ἐκὼν μεθιείς τε καὶ οὐκ ἐθέλεις· τὸ δ' ἐμὸν κῆρ  
 ἄχυνται ἐν θυμῷ, ὅθ' ὑπὲρ σέθεν αἴσχε' ἀκούω  
 525 πρὸς Τρώων, οἳ ἔχουσι πολὺν πόνον εἵνεκα σείο.  
 ἀλλ' ἴομεν· τὰ δ' ὀπισθεν ἀρεσσόμεθ', αἶ κέ ποθι Ζεὺς  
 δώῃ ἐπουρανίοισι θεοῖς αἰειγενέτησι  
 κρητῆρα στήσασθαι ἐλεύθερον ἐν μεγάροισιν,  
 ἐκ Τροίης ἐλάσαντας ἐνκνήμιδας Ἀχαιούς.”



## BOOK 6

and his swift feet bore him on. Quickly then he overtook noble Hector, his brother, just as he was about to turn back from the place where he had been conversing with his wife. Then godlike Alexander was first to speak to him, saying: "Brother, I must be holding you back in your haste by my long delaying, and came not at the proper time, as you told me."

In answer to him spoke Hector of the flashing helmet: "Strange man, no one who is right-minded would make light of your work in battle, since you are valiant; but you choose to slack off, and are unwilling; and at that my heart is grieved within me, when I hear reproachful words concerning you from the lips of the Trojans, who because of you have grievous toil. But let us go; these things we will make good later on, if Zeus will grant us to set for the heavenly gods who are for ever a bowl of freedom in our halls, when we have driven from the land of Troy the well-greaved Achaeans."

## Η

ὣς εἰπὼν πυλέων ἐξέσσυτο φαίδιμος Ἑκτωρ,  
τῷ δ' ἄμ' Ἀλέξανδρος κί' ἀδελφεός· ἐν δ' ἄρα θυμῷ  
ἀμφότεροι μέμασαν πολεμίζειν ἠδὲ μάχεσθαι.  
ὥς δὲ θεὸς ναύτησιν ἐλδομένοισιν ἔδωκεν

- 5 οὖρον, ἐπεὶ κε κάμωσιν ἐνξέστης ἐλάττησι  
πόντον ἐλαύνοντες, καμάτῳ δ' ὑπὸ γυῖα λέλυνται,  
ὥς ἄρα τὼ Τρώεσσιν ἐλδομένοισι φανήτην.

- Ἐνθ' ἐλέτην ὁ μὲν νιὸν Ἀρηιθόιο ἀνακτος,  
Ἄρνη ναιετάοντα Μενέσθιον, ὃν κορυνήτης  
10 γείνατ' Ἀρηίθοος καὶ Φυλομέδουσα βοῶπις·  
Ἑκτωρ δ' Ἡϊονῆα βάλ' ἔγχεϊ ὀξυόεντι  
αὐχέν' ὑπὸ στεφάνης εὐχάλκου, λῦσε<sup>1</sup> δὲ γυῖα.  
Γλαῦκος δ' Ἴππολόχοιο πάις, Λυκίων ἀγὸς ἀνδρῶν,  
Ἴφίνοον βάλε δουρὶ κατὰ κρατερὴν ὕσμίνην  
15 Δεξιάδην, ἵππων ἐπιάλμενον ὠκειάων,  
ὦμον· ὁ δ' ἐξ ἵππων χαμάδις πέσε, λύντο δὲ γυῖα.

- Τοὺς δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη  
Ἀργείους ὀλέκοντας ἐνὶ κρατερῇ ὕσμίνῃ,  
βῆ ῥα κατ' Οὐλύμποιο καρήνων αἴζασα  
20 Ἴλιον εἰς ἱερήν· τῇ δ' ἀντίος ὄρνυτ' Ἀπόλλων  
Περγάμου ἐκκατιδών, Τρώεσσι δὲ βούλετο νίκην.

## BOOK 7

So saying, glorious Hector rushed out from the gates, and with him went his brother Alexander; and in their hearts both were eager for war and battle. And as a god gives to longing seamen a fair wind when they have grown weary of driving the sea with polished oars of fir, and with weariness are their limbs loosened, so appeared these two to the longing Trojans.

Then Paris slew the son of king Areïthous, Menesthius, who dwelt in Arne, who was born of the mace-man Areïthous and ox-eyed Phylomedusa; and Hector with his sharp spear struck Eïoneus on the neck below the well-made helmet of bronze, and loosed his limbs. And Glaucus, son of Hippolochus, leader of the Lycians, made a cast with his spear in the mighty combat at Iphinous, son of Dexius, as he sprang on to his chariot behind his swift mares, and struck him on the shoulder; so he fell from his chariot to the ground and his limbs were loosed.

But when the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, noticed them as they were slaying the Argives in the mighty combat, she darted down from the peaks of Olympus to sacred Ilios. And Apollo rushed to meet her, for he had looked down from Pergamus and seen her, and was eager to have

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<sup>1</sup> λῦσε: λύντο Aristarchus.

ἀλλήλοισι δὲ τώ γε συναντέσθην παρὰ φηγῶ.  
 τὴν πρότερος προσέειπεν ἄναξ Διὸς υἱὸς Ἀπόλλων·  
 “τίπτε σὺ δὴ αὖ μεμαυῖα, Διὸς θύγατερ μέγαλοιο,  
 25 ἦλθες ἀπ’ Οὐλύμποιο, μέγας δέ σε θυμὸς ἀνῆκεν;  
 ἦ ἵνα δὴ Δαναοῖσι μάχης ἑτεραλκέα νίκην  
 δῶς; ἐπεὶ οὐ τι Τρῶας ἀπολλυμένους ἐλεαίρεις.  
 ἀλλ’ εἴ μοί τι πίθοιο, τό κεν πολὺ κέρδιον εἴη·  
 νῦν μὲν παύσωμεν πόλεμον καὶ δημοτῆτα  
 30 σήμερον· ὕστερον αὖτε μαχήσονται, εἰς ὃ κε τέκμωρ  
 Ἴλιον εὖρωσιν, ἐπεὶ ὥς φίλον ἔπλετο θυμῷ  
 ὑμῖν ἀθανάτησι,<sup>2</sup> διαπραθέειν τόδε ἄστυ.”

Τὸν δ’ αὖτε προσέειπε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·  
 “ὦδ’ ἔστω, ἐκάεργε· τὰ γὰρ φρονέουσα καὶ αὐτὴ  
 35 ἦλθον ἀπ’ Οὐλύμποιο μετὰ Τρῶας καὶ Ἀχαιοὺς.  
 ἀλλ’ ἄγε, πῶς μέμονας πόλεμον καταπαυσέμεν  
 ἀνδρῶν;”

Τὴν δ’ αὖτε προσέειπεν ἄναξ Διὸς υἱὸς Ἀπόλλων·  
 “Ἔκτορος ὄρωμεν κρατερὸν μένος ἵπποδάμοιο,  
 ἦν τινά που Δαναῶν προκαλέσσεται οἰόθεν οἶος  
 40 ἀντίβιον μαχέσασθαι ἐν αἰνῇ δημοτῇτι,  
 οἱ δέ κ’ ἀγασσάμενοι χαλκοκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 οἶον ἐπόρσειαν πολεμίζειν Ἔκτορι δίῳ.”

Ὡς ἔφατ’, οὐδ’ ἀπίθησε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·  
 τῶν δ’ Ἑλένος, Πριάμοιο φίλος παῖς, σύνθετο θυμῷ  
 45 βουλήν, ἥ ῥα θεοῖσιν ἐφῆνδανε μητιόωσι·  
 στῇ δὲ παρ’ Ἔκτορ’ ἰὼν καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·  
 “Ἔκτορ, υἱὲ Πριάμοιο, Διὶ μῆτιν ἀτάλαντε,  
 ἦ ῥά νύ μοί τι πίθοιο; κασίγνητος δέ τοί εἰμι.

victory for the Trojans. So the two met one another by the oak tree. Then to her spoke first the king Apollo, son of Zeus: "Why have you come so eagerly from Olympus this time, daughter of great Zeus, and why has your great heart sent you? Is it so you may give the Danaans victory to turn the tide of battle, since you have no pity for the Trojans who are perishing? But if you would obey me in anything—and so would it be better far—let us now stop the war and combat for this day. Later will they fight again until they win the goal of Ilios, since thus it seems good to the hearts of you immortal goddesses to lay waste this city."

And in answer to him spoke the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene: "So be it, god who works from afar; with this in mind have I myself come from Olympus to the Trojans and Achaeans. But come, how do you intend to stop the battle of the warriors?"

In answer to her spoke king Apollo, son of Zeus: "Let us rouse the mighty force of horse-taming Hector, in the hope that he may challenge some one of the Danaans in single fight to do battle with him man to man in dread combat. So shall the bronze-greaved Achaeans in indignation rouse some one to do battle with noble Hector."

So he spoke, and the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene, failed not to obey. And Helenus, the dear son of Priam, understood in his heart their plan that had found pleasure with the gods in council; and he came and stood by Hector's side, and spoke to him, saying: "Hector, son of Priam, peer of Zeus in counsel, will you now listen to me? For I am

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<sup>2</sup> ἀθανάτησι: ἀθανάτοισι Zenodotus: ἀμφοτέρησι Aristophanes.

- ἄλλους μὲν κάθισον Τρῶας καὶ πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 50 αὐτὸς δὲ προκάλεσσαι Ἀχαιῶν ὅς τις ἄριστος  
 ἀντίβιον μαχέσασθαι ἐν αἰνῇ δηιοτήτι.  
 οὐ γάρ πώ τοι μοῖρα θανεῖν καὶ πότμον ἐπισπείν·  
 ὥς γὰρ ἐγὼν ὅπ' ἄκουσα θεῶν αἰειγενετῶν.”<sup>3</sup>  
 “Ὡς ἔφαθ', Ἐκτωρ δ' αὖτ' ἐχάρη μέγα μῦθον  
 ἀκούσας,  
 55 καὶ ῥ' ἐς μέσσον ἰὼν Τρώων ἀνέεργε φάλαγγας,  
 μέσσον δουρὸς ἐλών· οἱ δ' ἰδρύνθησαν ἅπαντες,  
 καδ δ' Ἀγαμέμνων εἷσεν ἐκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς.  
 καδ δ' ἄρ' Ἀθηναίη τε καὶ ἀργυρότοξος Ἀπόλλων  
 ἐξέσθην ὄρνεσιν ἐοικότες αἰγυπιοῖσι  
 60 φηγῶ ἐφ' ὑψηλῇ πατρὸς Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο,  
 ἀνδράσι τερπόμενοι· τῶν δὲ στίχες ἦατο πυκναί,  
 ἀσπίσι καὶ κορύθεσσι καὶ ἔγχεσι πεφρικυῖαι.  
 οἷη δὲ Ζεφύροιο ἐχεύατο πόντον ἔπι φριξί  
 ὀρνυμένοιο νέον, μελάνει δέ τε πόντος ὑπ' αὐτῆς,  
 65 τοῖαι ἄρα στίχες ἦατ' Ἀχαιῶν τε Τρώων τε  
 ἐν πεδίῳ· Ἐκτωρ δὲ μετ' ἀμφοτέροισιν ἔειπε·  
 “κέκλυτέ μεν, Τρῶες καὶ ἐκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοί,  
 ὄφρ' εἴπω τά με θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι κελεύει.  
 ὄρκια μὲν Κρονίδης ὑψίζυγος οὐκ ἐτέλεσσεν,  
 70 ἀλλὰ κακὰ φρονέων τεκμαίρεται ἀμφοτέροισιν,  
 εἰς ὃ κεν ἢ ὑμεῖς Τροίην εὖπυργον ἔλητε,  
 ἢ αὐτοὶ παρὰ νηυσὶ δαμῆτε ποντοπόροισιν.  
 ὑμῖν δ' ἐν γὰρ ἔασιν ἀριστῆες Παναχαιῶν·  
 τῶν νῦν ὅν τινα θυμὸς ἐμοὶ μαχέσασθαι ἀνώγει,  
 75 δεῦρ' ἵτω ἐκ πάντων πρόμος ἔμμεναι Ἐκτορι δίῳ.

your brother. Make the others sit down, the Trojans and all the Achaeans, and you challenge whoever is best of the Achaeans to do battle with you man to man in dread combat. Not yet is it your fate to die and meet your doom; for thus have I heard the voice of the gods who are for ever."

So he spoke, and Hector rejoiced greatly when he heard his words; and he went into the midst of the Trojans and kept back their battalions with his spear grasped by the middle; and they all sat down, and Agamemnon made the well-greaved Achaeans sit. And Athene and Apollo of the silver bow in the likeness of vultures sat on the lofty oak of father Zeus who bears the aegis, rejoicing in the warriors; and the ranks of these sat close, bristling with shields and helmets and spears. Just as there is spread over the face of the deep the ripple of the West Wind when it is newly risen, and the deep grows black beneath it, so sat the ranks of the Achaeans and Trojans in the plain. And Hector spoke between the two armies: "Hear me, Trojans and well-greaved Achaeans, while I speak what the heart in my breast tells me. Our oaths the son of Cronos, throned on high, brought not to fulfillment, but with evil intent ordains a time for both armies, until either you take well-walled Troy or yourselves are vanquished beside your sea-faring ships. With you are the chief men of the whole army of the Achaeans; of these let now that man whose heart commands him to fight with me come here from among you all to be your champion against noble Hector. And

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<sup>3</sup> Line 53 was rejected by Aristarchus.

- ὦδε δὲ μυθέομαι, Ζεὺς δ' ἄμμ' ἐπὶ μάρτυρος ἔστω·  
 εἰ μὲν κεν ἐμὲ κείνος ἔλῃ ταναήκεϊ χαλκῶ,  
 τεύχεα συλήσας φερέτω κοίλας ἐπὶ νῆας,  
 σῶμα δὲ οἴκαδ' ἐμὸν δόμεναι πάλιν, ὄφρα πυρός με  
 80 Τρῶες καὶ Τρώων ἄλοχοι λελάχωσι θανόντα.  
 εἰ δέ κ' ἐγὼ τὸν ἔλω, δώῃ δέ μοι εὖχος Ἀπόλλων,  
 τεύχεα σύλησας οἴσω προτὶ Ἴλιον ἱρήν,  
 καὶ κρεμόω προτὶ νηὸν Ἀπόλλωνος ἐκάτοιο,  
 τὸν δὲ νέκυν ἐπὶ νῆας ἐυσσέλμους ἀποδώσω,  
 85 ὄφρα ἐ ταρχύσωσι κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοί,  
 σῆμά τε οἱ χεύωσιν ἐπὶ πλατείῃ Ἑλλησπόντῳ.  
 καί ποτέ τις εἶπῃσι καὶ ὀψιγόνων ἀνθρώπων,  
 νηὶ πολυκλήιδι πλέων ἐπὶ οἴνοπα πόντον·  
 ἄνδρὸς μὲν τόδε σῆμα πάλαι κατατεθνηῶτος,  
 90 ὃν ποτ' ἀριστεύοντα κατέκτανε φαίδιμος Ἴκτωρ.  
 ὥς ποτέ τις ἐρέει· τὸ δ' ἐμὸν κλέος οὐ ποτ' ὀλεῖται.”  
 Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ·  
 αἶδεσθαι μὲν ἀνήνασθαι, δεῖσαν δ' ὑποδέχθαι·  
 ὅψε δὲ δὴ Μενέλαος ἀνίστατο καὶ μετέειπε  
 95 νείκει ὀνειδίζων, μέγα δὲ στεναχίζετο θυμῷ·  
 “ὦ μοι, ἀπειλητῆρες, Ἀχαιῖδες, οὐκέτ' Ἀχαιοί·  
 ἦ μὲν δὴ λώβῃ τάδε γ' ἔσσεται αἰνόθεν αἰνῶς,  
 εἰ μή τις Δαναῶν νῦν Ἴκτωρ ἀντίος εἴσιν.  
 ἀλλ' ὑμεῖς μὲν πάντες ὕδωρ καὶ γαῖα γένοισθε,  
 100 ἤμενοι αὖθι ἐκαστοὶ ἀκήριοι, ἀκλεῆς αὖτως·  
 τῷδε δ' ἐγὼν αὐτὸς θωρήξομαι· αὐτὰρ ὑπερθε  
 νίκης πείρατ' ἔχονται ἐν ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖσιν.”  
 Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας κατεδύσετο τεύχεα καλά.



## BOOK 7

thus do I declare my word, and may Zeus be our witness to it: if that man slays me with the long-edged bronze, let him strip me of my armor and carry it to the hollow ships, but my body let him give them to take back home, so that the Trojans and the Trojan wives may give me my share of fire in my death. But if I slay him, and Apollo gives me glory, I will strip him of his armor and carry it to sacred Ilios and hang it on the shrine of Apollo, the god who strikes from afar, but his corpse I will give back to the well-benched ships, so that the long-haired Achaeans may give him burial, and heap up for him a mound by the wide Hellespont. And someone of men who are yet to be will one day say as he sails in his many-benched ship over the wine-dark sea: 'This is the mound of a man who died long ago, whom once in his prowess glorious Hector slew.' So will someone say, and my glory will never die."

So he spoke, and they all became hushed in silence; they were ashamed to refuse him, but they feared to take up the challenge. Finally Menelaus arose among them and spoke, reproaching them with reviling words, and deeply did he groan at heart: "Ah me, you braggarts, you women of Achaea, men no more! Surely will this be an outrage dread and dire, if no man of the Danaans now goes to meet Hector. But may you one and all turn to earth and water, you who sit there each man with no heart in him, utterly inglorious. Against this man will I myself arm; but from on high are the issues of victory held by the immortal gods."

So he spoke, and put on his fair armor. And now,

- 105 ἔνθα κέ τοι, Μενέλαε, φάνη βιότοιο τελευτῇ  
 Ἑκτορος ἐν παλάμῃσιν, ἐπεὶ πολὺ φέρτερος ἦεν,  
 εἰ μὴ ἀναΐξαντες ἔλον βασιλῆες Ἀχαιῶν,  
 αὐτός τ' Ἀτρεΐδης εὐρὺν κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 δεξιτερῆς ἔλε χειρὸς ἔπος τ' ἔφατ' ἔκ τ' ὀνόμαζεν·  
 “ἀφραίνεις, Μενέλαε διοτρεφές, οὐδέ τί σε χρὴ  
 110 ταύτης ἀφροσύνης· ἀνὰ δὲ σχέο κηδόμενός περ,  
 μηδ' ἔθελ' ἐξ ἔριδος σεῦ ἀμείνονι φωτὶ μάχεσθαι,  
 Ἑκτορι Πριαμίδῃ, τόν τε στυγέουσι καὶ ἄλλοι.  
 καὶ δ' Ἀχιλεὺς τούτῳ γε μάχῃ ἐνὶ κυδιανείρῃ  
 ἔρριγ' ἀντιβολήσαι, ὃ περ σέο πολλὸν ἀμείνων.  
 115 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν νῦν ἵζευ ἰὼν μετὰ ἔθνος ἐταίρων,  
 τούτῳ δὲ πρόμον ἄλλον ἀναστήσουσιν Ἀχαιοί.  
 εἰ περ ἀδειῆς τ' ἐστὶ καὶ εἰ μόθον ἔστ' ἀκόρητος,  
 φημί μιν ἀσπασίως γόνυ κάμψειν, αἶ κε φύγησι  
 δηῖον ἐκ πολέμοιο καὶ αἰνῆς δηιοτήτος.”  
 120 ὣς εἰπὼν παρέπεισεν ἀδελφειοῦ φρένας ἥρως  
 αἵσιμα παρειπῶν, ὃ δ' ἐπέειθετο. τοῦ μὲν ἔπειτα  
 γηθόσυννοι θεράποντες ἀπ' ὤμων τεύχε' ἔλοντο·  
 Νέστωρ δ' Ἀργείοισιν ἀνίστατο καὶ μετέειπεν·  
 “ὦ πόποι, ἦ μέγα πένθος Ἀχαιίδα γαῖαν ἰκάνει.  
 125 ἦ κε μέγ' οἰμώξειε γέρων ἱππηλάτα Πηλεὺς,  
 ἐσθλὸς Μυρμιδόνων βουλευφόρος ἠδ' ἀγορητής,  
 ὅς ποτέ μ' εἰρόμενος μέγ' ἐγῆθεεν<sup>4</sup> ᾧ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ,  
 πάντων Ἀργείων ἐρέων γενεήν τε τόκον τε.  
 τοὺς νῦν εἰ πτώσσοντας ὑφ' Ἑκτορι πάντας ἀκούσαι,  
 130 πολλὰ κεν ἀθανάτοισι φίλας ἀνὰ χεῖρας ἀείραι,  
 θυμὸν ἀπὸ μελέων δῦναι δόμον Ἀΐδος εἴσω.

Menelaus, would the end of life have appeared for you at the hands of Hector, since he was mightier far, had not the kings of the Achaeans sprung up and laid hold of you. And Atreus' son himself, wide-ruling Agamemnon, caught him by the right hand and spoke to him, saying: "You are mad, Menelaus, nurtured by Zeus, and you have no need of this madness. Hold back, for all your grief, and be not minded to fight in rivalry with one better than you, with Hector, son of Priam, whom others also dread. Even Achilles shudders to meet this man in battle, where men win glory, and he is better far than you. But now go and sit in the throng of your comrades; against this man will the Achaeans raise up another champion. Fearless though he may be and insatiate of battle, I say he will be glad to bend his knees in rest, if he escapes from the fury of war and the dread combat."

So spoke the warrior and turned his brother's mind, for he counselled rightly; and Menelaus obeyed. Then with gladness his attendants took his armor from his shoulders; and Nestor rose up and spoke among the Argives: "Well now! Great grief has come on the land of Achaea for sure. Loudly would the old horseman Peleus surely groan, noble counselor and orator of the Myrmidons, who once questioned me in his own house, and rejoiced greatly as he asked of the lineage and birth of all the Argives. If he were to hear that these men were now all cowering before Hector, then would he lift up his hands to the immortals in earnest prayer that his spirit might go from his limbs into the

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<sup>4</sup> μ' εἰρόμενος μέγ' ἐγήθεεν: μειρόμενος μεγάλη' ἔστανεν Zenodotus.

- αἶ γάρ, Ζεῦ τε πάτερ καὶ Ἀθηναίη καὶ Ἄπολλον,  
 ἡβῶμ' ὥς ὅτ' ἐπ' ὠκυρόφῳ Κελάδοντι μάχοντο  
 ἀγρόμενοι Πύλιοί τε καὶ Ἀρκάδες ἐγχεσίμωροι,  
 135 Φειᾶς παρ τείχεσσιν, Ἰαρδάνου ἀμφὶ ῥέεθρα.  
 τοῖσι δ' Ἐρευθαλίων πρόμος ἴστατο, ἰσόθεος φῶς,  
 τεύχε' ἔχων ὤμοισιν Ἀρηιθόοιο ἄνακτος,  
 δίου Ἀρηιθόου, τὸν ἐπὶ κλησιν κορυνήτην  
 ἄνδρες κίκλησκον καλλίζωνοί τε γυναῖκες,  
 140 οὔνεκ' ἄρ' οὐ τόξοισι μαχέσκετο δουρί τε μακρῷ,  
 ἀλλὰ σιδηρεῖη κορύνη ῥήγνυσκε φάλαγγας.  
 τὸν Λυκόεργος ἔπεφνε δόλῳ, οὗ τι κράτεῖ γε,  
 στεινωπῷ ἐν ὁδῷ, ὅθ' ἄρ' οὐ κορύνη οἱ ὄλεθρον  
 χραῖσμε σιδηρεῖη· πρὶν γὰρ Λυκόεργος ὑποφθὰς<sup>5</sup>  
 145 δουρὶ μέσον περόνησεν, ὃ δ' ὕπτιος οὔδεις ἐρείσθη·  
 τεύχεα δ' ἐξενάριξε, τά οἱ πόρε χάλκεος Ἄρης.  
 καὶ τὰ μὲν αὐτὸς ἔπειτα φόρει μετὰ μῶλον Ἄρης·  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ Λυκόεργος ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἐγήρα,  
 δῶκε δ' Ἐρευθαλίῳ φιλῶ θεράποντι φορῆναι.  
 150 τοῦ ὃ γε τεύχε' ἔχων προκαλίζετο πάντας ἀρίστους·  
 οἱ δὲ μάλ' ἐτρόμεον καὶ ἐδείδισαν, οὐδέ τις ἔτλη.  
 ἀλλ' ἐμὲ θυμὸς ἀνῆκε πολυτλήμων πολεμίζειν  
 θάρσει ᾧ· γενεῇ δὲ νεώτατος ἔσκον ἀπάντων.  
 καὶ μαχόμεν οἱ ἐγώ, δῶκεν δέ μοι εὖχος Ἀθήνη.  
 155 τὸν δὴ μήκιστον καὶ κάρτιστον κτάνον ἄνδρα·  
 πολλὸς γάρ τις ἔκειτο παρήγορος ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα.  
 εἴθ' ὥς ἡβώοιμι, βίη δέ μοι ἔμπεδος εἴη·  
 τῷ κε τάχ' ἀντήσειε μάχης κορυθαίολος Ἑκτωρ.  
 ὑμέων δ' οἱ περ ἔασιν ἀριστῆες Παναχαιῶν,

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house of Hades. O father Zeus and Athene and Apollo, I wish I were young as when beside swift-flowing Celadon the Pylians and Arcadians who rage with spears gathered together and fought beneath the walls of Pheia around the streams of Iardanus. On their side stood forth Ereuthalion as champion, a godlike man, having on his shoulders the armor of king Areïthous, noble Areïthous whom men and fair-belted women used to call the mace-man because he fought not with bow or long spear, but with a mace of iron shattered battalions. Him Lycurgus slew by guile and not at all by might, in a narrow defile, where his mace of iron saved him not from destruction. For Lycurgus came on him unawares and pierced him through the middle with his spear, and backward he was hurled on the earth; and Lycurgus stripped him of the armor that brazen Ares had given him. This armor he then wore himself in the turmoil of Ares, but when Lycurgus grew old in his halls, he gave it to Ereuthalion, his dear attendant, to wear. And wearing his armor did Ereuthalion challenge all the best men; but they trembled and were terribly afraid, and no man dared. But my enduring heart set me on to battle with him in my boldness, though in years I was youngest of all. So I fought with him, and Athene gave me glory. He was the tallest and the strongest man that I ever slew: as a huge sprawling bulk he lay stretched this way and that. I wish that I were as young and my strength were as firm; then should Hector of the flashing helmet soon find one to face him. But you, though you are chief men of the whole army of the

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<sup>5</sup> ὑποφθὰς: ἀναστὰς Aristarchus.

- 160 οὐδ' οἱ προφρονέως μέμαθ' Ἑκτορος ἀντίον ἐλθεῖν."  
 ὧς νείκεσσ' ὁ γέρων, οἱ δ' ἐννέα πάντες ἀνέστησαν·  
 ὦρτο πολὺ πρῶτος μὲν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 τῷ δ' ἐπὶ Τυδεΐδης ὦρτο κρατερὸς Διομήδης,  
 τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' Αἴαντες, θοῦριν ἐπιειμένοι ἀλκὴν,  
 165 τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' Ἴδομενεὺς καὶ ὁπάων Ἴδομενῆος,  
 Μηριόνης, ἀτάλαντος Ἐνναλίῳ ἀνδρεϊφόντῃ,  
 τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' Εὐρύπυλος, Εὐαίμονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός,  
 ἂν δὲ Θόας Ἀνδραϊμονίδης καὶ δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·  
 πάντες ἄρ' οἳ γ' ἔθελον πολεμίζειν Ἑκτορι δίῳ.  
 170 τοῖς δ' αὖτις μετέειπε Γερήνιος ἱππότης Νέστωρ·  
 “κλήρῳ νῦν πεπάλεσθε διαμπερές, ὅς κε λάχῃσιν·  
 οὗτος γὰρ δὴ ὀνήσει ἐκκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 καὶ δ' αὐτὸς ὃν θυμὸν ὀνήσεται, αἶ κε φύγησι  
 δηΐου ἐκ πολέμοιο καὶ αἰνῆς δηιοτήτος.”  
 175 ὧς ἔφαθ', οἱ δὲ κλῆρον ἐσημήναντο ἕκαστος,  
 ἐν δ' ἔβαλον κυνέῃ Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδαο·  
 λαοὶ δ' ἠρήσαντο, θεοῖσι δὲ χεῖρας ἀνέσχον.  
 ὦδε δέ τις εἵπεσκεν ἰδὼν εἰς οὐρανὸν εὐρύν·  
 “Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἧ Αἴαντα λαχεῖν, ἧ Τυδέος υἱόν,  
 180 ἧ αὐτὸν βασιλῆα πολυχρύσοιο Μυκλήνης.”  
 ὧς ἄρ' ἔφαν, πάλLEN δὲ Γερήνιος ἱππότης Νέστωρ,  
 ἐκ δ' ἔθορε κλῆρος κυνέης, ὃν ἄρ' ἤθελον αὐτοί,  
 Αἴαντος· κῆρυξ δὲ φέρων ἂν' ὄμιλον ἀπάντη  
 δεῖξ' ἐνδέξια πᾶσιν ἀριστήεσσιν Ἀχαιῶν·  
 185 οἱ δ' οὐ γιγνώσκοντες ἀπηνῆναντο ἕκαστος.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ τὸν ἵκανε φέρων ἂν' ὄμιλον ἀπάντη,  
 ὅς μιν ἐπιγράψας κυνέῃ βάλε, φαίδιμος Αἴας,

Achaeans, not even you are minded eagerly to meet Hector face to face."

So the old man rebuked them, and there stood up nine in all. Far the first the lord of men sprang up, Agamemnon, and after him Tydeus' son, mighty Diomedes, sprang up, and after them the two Aiantes, clothed in furious valor, and after them Idomeneus and Idomeneus' comrade Meriones, the peer of Enyalios, slayer of men, and after them Eurypylus, the glorious son of Euaemon; and up sprang Thoas, son of Andraemon, and noble Odysseus; all these were minded to do battle with noble Hector. Then among them spoke again the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: "Cast the lot now from the first to the last for the one who will be chosen; for he will surely benefit the well-greaved Achaeans and will benefit himself as well, if he escapes from the fury of war and the dread combat."

So said he, and they marked each man his lot and cast them in the helmet of Agamemnon, son of Atreus; and the army made prayer, and lifted up their hands to the gods. And thus would one say looking up to the broad heaven: "Father Zeus, grant that the lot fall on Aias or the son of Tydeus or else on the king of Mycene rich in gold himself."

So spoke they, and the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, shook the helmet, and out leapt the lot that they themselves desired, the lot of Aias. And the herald carried it everywhere through the throng, and showed it from left to right to all the chief men of the Achaeans; but they recognized it not, and every man denied it. But when in carrying it everywhere through the throng he had come to him who had marked it and cast it into the helmet, glorious Aias,

ἦ τοι ὑπέσχεθε χεῖρ', ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἔμβαλεν ἄγχι παρα-  
στάς,

γνῶ δὲ κλήρου σῆμα ἰδὼν, γήθησε δ' θυμῷ.

190 τὸν μὲν παρ πόδ' ἐὼν χαμάδις βάλε φώνησέν τε·  
“ὦ φίλοι, ἦ τοι κλήρος ἐμός, χαίρω δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς  
θυμῷ, ἐπεὶ δοκέω νικησέμεν Ἑκτορα δῖον.

ἀλλ' ἄγετ', ὅφρ' ἂν ἐγὼ πολεμήια τεύχεα δύω,  
τόφρ' ὑμεῖς εὐχεσθε Διὶ Κρονίῳνι ἄνακτι,

195 σιγῇ ἐφ' ὑμείων, ἵνα μὴ Τρῳῆς γε πύθωνται,<sup>6</sup>  
ἢ καὶ ἀμφαδίην, ἐπεὶ οὐ τινα δείδιμεν ἔμπης.  
οὐ γάρ τίς με βίῃ γε ἐκὼν<sup>7</sup> ἀέκοντα δίηται,  
οὐδέ τι ἰδρεῖν, ἐπεὶ οὐδ' ἐμὲ νήϊδά γ' οὕτως  
ἔλπομαι ἐν Σαλαμῖνι γενέσθαι τε τραφέμεν τε.”

200 “Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' εὐχοντο Διὶ Κρονίῳνι ἄνακτι·  
ὦδε δέ τις εἶπεςκεν ἰδὼν εἰς οὐρανὸν εὐρύν·  
“Ζεῦ πάτερ, Ἰδηθεν μεδέων, κύδιστε μέγιστε,  
δὸς νίκην Αἴαντι καὶ ἀγλαὸν εὖχος ἀρέσθαι·  
εἰ δὲ καὶ Ἑκτορά περ φιλέεις καὶ κήδεαι αὐτοῦ,  
205 ἴσην ἀμφοτέροισι βίην καὶ κῦδος ὅπασσον.”

“Ὡς ἄρ' ἔφαν, Αἴας δὲ κορύσσετο νώροπι χαλκῷ·  
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ πάντα περὶ χροῖ ἔσσατο τεύχεα,  
σεύατ' ἔπειθ' οἷός τε πελώριος ἔρχεται Ἄρης,  
ὅς τ' εἰσιν πόλεμόνδε μετ' ἀνέρας, οὓς τε Κρονίων  
210 θυμοβόρον ἔριδος μένει ξυνέηκε μάχεσθαι.  
τοῖος ἄρ' Αἴας ὦρτο πελώριος, ἔρκος Ἀχαιῶν,  
μειδιῶν βλοσυροῖσι προσώπασιν· νέρθε δὲ ποσσὶν  
ἦε μακρὰ βιβάς, κραδάων δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος.  
τὸν δὲ καὶ Ἀργεῖοι μὲν ἐγήθηον εἰσορόωντες,



then Aias held out his hand, and the herald came up and laid the lot in it; and Aias knew at a glance the mark on the lot, and rejoiced at heart. The lot then he cast on the ground beside his foot, and cried out: "My friends, the lot is mine, and my heart rejoices, for I think that I shall vanquish noble Hector. But come now, while I am putting on my battle gear, you make prayer to lord Zeus, son of Cronos, in silence by yourselves, so that the Trojans learn nothing of it—or even openly, since in any case we fear no man. For by force will no man drive me in flight of his own will and in spite of mine, nor yet by skill; since, I think, skill-less I was not born or raised in Salamis."

So he spoke, and they made prayer to lord Zeus, son of Cronos; and thus would one speak looking up to the broad heaven: "Father Zeus, who rule from Ida, most glorious, most great, grant victory to Aias and that he win glorious renown; or if you love Hector too, and care for him, grant to both equal might and glory."

So they spoke, and Aias armed himself in gleaming bronze. But when he had clothed all his armor about his flesh, then he rushed out just as huge Ares goes out when he enters into battle among warriors whom the son of Cronos has brought together to contend in the fury of soul-devouring strife. Just so sprang out huge Aias, the bulwark of the Achaeans, with a smile on his grim face; and he went with long strides of his feet beneath him, brandishing his far-shadowing spear. Then were the Argives glad as they

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<sup>6</sup> Lines 195–199 were rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

<sup>7</sup> ἐκὼν: ἐλὼν Aristarchus.

- 215 Τρῶας δὲ τρόμος αἰνὸς ὑπήλυθε γυῖα ἕκαστον,  
 Ἔκτορί τ' αὐτῷ θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι πάτασσεν.  
 ἀλλ' οὐ πῶς ἔτι εἶχεν ὑποτρέσαι οὐδ' ἀναδύναι  
 ἀψ' λαῶν ἐς ὄμιλον, ἐπεὶ προκαλέσσατο χάρμη.  
 Αἴας δ' ἐγγύθεν ἦλθε φέρων σάκος ἥντε πύργον,
- 220 χάλκεον ἑπταβόειον, ὃ οἱ Τυχίος κάμε τεύχων,  
 σκυτοτόμων ὅχ' ἄριστος, Ἔλῃ ἐνὶ οἰκίᾳ ναίων,  
 ὃς οἱ ἐποίησεν σάκος αἰόλον ἑπταβόειον  
 ταύρων ζατρεφέων, ἐπὶ δ' ὄγδοον ἤλασε χαλκόν.  
 τὸ πρόσθε στέρνοιο φέρων Τελαμώνιος Αἴας
- 225 στή ῥα μάλ' Ἔκτορος ἐγγύς, ἀπειλήσας δὲ προσηύδα·  
 “Ἔκτορ, νῦν μὲν δὴ σάφα εἴσεαι οἰόθεν οἶος  
 οἶοι καὶ Δαναοῖσιν ἀριστῆες μετέασι,  
 καὶ μετ' Ἀχιλλῆα ῥηξήνορα θυμολέοντα.  
 ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐν νήεσσι κορωνίσι ποντοπόροισι
- 230 κεῖτ' ἀπομηνίσας Ἀγαμέμνονι, ποιμένι λαῶν·  
 ἡμεῖς δ' εἰμὲν τοιοῖοι οἳ ἂν σέθεν ἀντιάσαιμεν  
 καὶ πολέες· ἀλλ' ἄρχε μάχης ἡδὲ πτολέμοιο.”
- Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε μέγας κορυθαίολος Ἔκτωρ·  
 “Αἴαν διογενὲς Τελαμώνιε, κοίρανε λαῶν,
- 235 μή τί μεν ἥντε παιδὸς ἀφαιροῦ πειρήτιζε,  
 ἡὲ γυναικός, ἣ οὐκ οἶδεν πολεμήμια ἔργα.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν εὖ οἶδα μάχας τ' ἀνδροκτασίας τε.  
 οἶδ' ἐπὶ δεξιᾷ, οἶδ' ἐπ' ἀριστερὰ νωμῆσαι βῶν  
 ἀζαλέην, τό μοι ἔστι ταλαύρινον πολεμίζειν·
- 240 οἶδα δ' ἐπαῖξαι μόθον ἵππων ὠκείων·  
 οἶδα δ' ἐνὶ σταδίῃ δηίῳ μέλπεσθαι Ἄρῃ.

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looked on him, but on the Trojans dread trembling crept on the limbs of every man, and even Hector's heart beat fast within his breast. But in no way could he still flee or shrink back into the throng of the army, since he had made the challenge to fight. So Aias came up, carrying his shield that was like a tower, a shield of bronze with sevenfold bull's hide, which Tychius had toiled over making, he who was far best of workers in hide, having his home in Hyle, who had made him his flashing shield of seven hides of sturdy bulls, and over it had worked an eighth layer of bronze. This Telamonian Aias carried in front of his chest, and he came and stood close by Hector, and addressed him threateningly: "Hector, now indeed will you know clearly, man to man, what manner of chief men there are as well among the Danaans after Achilles, breaker of the ranks of men, the lion-hearted. But he is lying among his beaked seafaring ships in utter wrath against Agamemnon, shepherd of men; yet are we such as to face you, and there are many of us. But begin war and battle."

To him then made answer great Hector of the flashing helmet: "Aias, sprung from Zeus, son of Telamon, and lord of men, in no way try to frighten me like some puny boy or a woman who knows not deeds of war. Full well I know battles and slayings of men. I know well how to wield to right, and well how to wield to left my shield of seasoned hide, which to me is a sturdy thing to wield in fight; and I know how to charge into the battle of chariots drawn by swift mares; and I know how in close fight to tread the measure

ἀλλ' οὐ γάρ σ' ἐθέλω βαλέειν τοιοῦτον ἔοντα  
 λάθρη ὀπιπεύσας, ἀλλ' ἀμφιδόν, αἶ κε τύχωμι."

- Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἀμπεπαλὼν προΐει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος,  
 245 καὶ βάλεν Αἴαντος δεινὸν σάκος ἑπταβόειον  
 ἀκρότατον κατὰ χαλκόν, ὃς ὄγδοος ἦεν ἐπ' αὐτῷ.  
 ἐξ δὲ διὰ πτύχας ἦλθε δαΐζων χαλκὸς ἀτειρής,  
 ἐν τῇ δ' ἐβδομάτῃ ῥινῷ σχέτο. δεύτερος αὖτε  
 Αἴας διογενῆς προΐει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος,  
 250 καὶ βάλε Πριαμίδαο κατ' ἀσπίδα πάντοσ' εἴσην.  
 διὰ μὲν ἀσπίδος ἦλθε φαεινῆς ὄβριμον ἔγχος,  
 καὶ διὰ θώρηκος πολυδαιδάλου ἡρήρειστο·  
 ἀντικρὺ δὲ παραὶ λαπάρην διάμησε χιτῶνα  
 ἔγχος· ὃ δ' ἐκλίνθη καὶ ἀλεύατο κῆρα μέλαιναν.  
 255 τῷ δ' ἐκσπασσαμένῳ δολίχ' ἔγχεα χερσὶν ἄμ' ἄμφω<sup>8</sup>  
 σὺν ῥ' ἔπεσον λείουσιν ἐοικότες ὠμοφάγοισιν  
 ἢ συσὶ κάπροισιν, τῶν τε σθένος οὐκ ἀλαπαδνόν.  
 Πριαμίδης μὲν ἔπειτα μέσον σάκος οὔτασε δουρί,  
 οὐδ' ἔρρηξεν χαλκός, ἀνεγνάμφθη δέ οἱ αἰχμή·  
 260 Αἴας δ' ἀσπίδα νύξεν ἐπάλμενος· ἡ δὲ διαπρὸ  
 ἦλυθεν ἐγχείῃ, στυφέλιξε δέ μιν μεμαῶτα,  
 τμήδην δ' αὐχέν' ἐπῆλθε, μέλαν δ' ἀνεκῆκιν αἶμα.  
 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς ἀπέληγε μάχης κορυθαίολος Ἔκτωρ,  
 ἀλλ' ἀναχασσάμενος λίθον εἴλετο χειρὶ παχείῃ  
 265 κείμενον ἐν πεδίῳ, μέλανα, τρηχύν τε μέγαν τε·  
 τῷ βάλεν Αἴαντος δεινὸν σάκος ἑπταβόειον  
 μέσσον ἐπομφάλιον· περιήχησεν δ' ἄρα χαλκός.  
 δεύτερος αὖτ' Αἴας πολὺ μείζονα λᾶαν ἀείρας  
 ἦκ' ἐπιδινήσας, ἐπέρισε δὲ ἱν' ἀπέλεθρον,

of furious Ares. Yet I am not minded to strike you, being such a one as you are, by eying you secretly; but rather openly, hoping to hit you."

He spoke, and poised his far-shadowing spear, and hurled it; and he struck Aias' terrible shield of sevenfold bull's hide on the outermost bronze, which was the eighth layer on it. Through six folds sheared the stubborn bronze, but in the seventh hide it was stayed. Then in turn Zeus-born Aias hurled his far-shadowing spear, and struck on the son of Priam's shield that was well balanced on every side. Through the bright shield went the mighty spear, and through the corselet richly worked did it force its way; and straight on beside his flank the spear sheared through his tunic; but he bent aside and escaped black fate. Then the two both at the same time drew out their long spears with their hands, and fell on one another like ravening lions or wild boars, whose strength is not feeble. Then the son of Priam struck square on the shield of Aias with a thrust of his spear, but the bronze broke not through, but its point was turned; but Aias leapt on him and pierced his shield, and clean through went the spear and made him reel in his attack; right to his neck it cut its way, and the dark blood welled up. But not even so did Hector of the flashing helmet cease from battle, but giving ground he seized with his stout hand a black stone that lay on the plain, jagged and great; with it he struck Aias' terrible shield of sevenfold bull's hide square on the boss; and the bronze rang about it. Then Aias in turn lifted on high a far greater stone, and swung and hurled it, putting measureless strength behind

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<sup>8</sup> Lines 255-257 were rejected by Zenodotus.

- 270 εἴσω δ' ἀσπίδ' ἔαξε βαλὼν μυλοειδέϊ πέτρῳ,  
βλάβῃ δέ οἱ φίλα γούναθ'. ὁ δ' ὕπτιος ἐξετανύσθη  
ἀσπίδι ἐγχριμφθεῖς· τὸν δ' αἰψ' ὤρθωσεν Ἀπόλλων.  
καὶ νῦ κε δὴ ξιφέεσσ' αὐτοσχεδὸν οὐτάζοντο,  
εἰ μὴ κήρυκες, Διὸς ἄγγελοι ἠδὲ καὶ ἀνδρῶν,  
275 ἦλθον, ὁ μὲν Τρώων, ὁ δ' Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων,  
Ταλθύβιός τε καὶ Ἰδαῖος, πεπνυμένῳ ἄμφω.  
μέσσω δ' ἀμφοτέρων σκῆπτρα σχέθον, εἶπέ τε μῦθον  
κῆρυξ Ἰδαῖος, πεπνυμένα μῆδεα εἰδώς·  
“μηκέτι, παῖδε φίλῳ, πολεμίζετε μηδὲ μάχεσθον·  
280 ἀμφοτέρῳ γὰρ σφῶι φιλεῖ νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς,  
ἄμφω δ' αἰχμητά· τό γε δὴ καὶ ἴδμεν ἅπαντες.  
νῦξ δ' ἤδη τελέθει· ἀγαθὸν καὶ νυκτὶ πιθέσθαι.”  
Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη Τελαμώνιος Αἴας·  
“Ἰδαῖ', Ἔκτορα ταῦτα κελεύετε μυθήσασθαι·  
285 αὐτὸς γὰρ χάρμῃ προκαλέσσομαι πάντας ἀρίστους.  
ἀρχέτω· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ μάλα πείσομαι ἥ περ ἂν οὔτος.”  
Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε μέγας κορυθαῖολος Ἔκτωρ·  
“Αἴαν, ἐπεὶ τοι δῶκε θεὸς μέγεθός τε βίην τε  
καὶ πινυτήν, περὶ δ' ἔγχει Ἀχαιῶν φέρτατός ἐσσι,  
290 νῦν μὲν παυσώμεσθα μάχης καὶ δηιοτήτος  
σήμερον· ὕστερον αὖτε μαχησόμεθ', εἰς ὃ κε δαίμων  
ἄμμε διακρίνη, δῶη δ' ἐτέροισί γε νίκην.  
νῦξ δ' ἤδη τελέθει· ἀγαθὸν καὶ νυκτὶ πιθέσθαι,  
ὥς σύ τ' ἐνφρήνης πάντας παρὰ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιοὺς,  
295 σοὺς τε μάλιστα ἕτας καὶ ἐταίρους, οἳ τοι ἔασιν.<sup>9</sup>  
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ κατὰ ἄστυ μέγα Πριάμοιο ἄνακτος  
Τρῶας ἐνφρανέω καὶ Τρῳάδας ἐλκεσιπέπλους,

it; and he burst the shield inwards with the cast of the rock that was like a millstone, and beat down Hector's knees; so he lay stretched on his back, gathered together under his shield; but Apollo immediately raised him up. And now they would have been thrusting with their swords in close fight, if the heralds, messengers of Zeus and men, had not come, one from the Trojans and the other from the bronze-clad Achaeans, Talthybius and Idaeus, men of prudence both. Between the two they held their staffs, and the herald Idaeus, skilled in prudent counsel, spoke, saying: "Fight no more, dear sons, and do not do battle; both of you are loved by Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, and both are spearmen; that surely we all know now. Moreover night is now upon us, and it is well to obey night."

In answer to him spoke Telamonian Aias: "Idaeus, tell Hector to speak these words, for it was he who challenged all our best to combat. Let him be first, and I will gladly obey whatever he says."

Then spoke to him great Hector of the flashing helmet: "Aias, since a god gave you stature and might, and wisdom also, and with your spear you are preeminent above all the Achaeans, let us now cease from battle and combat for this day; later on we shall fight again until a god judges between us, and gives victory to one side or the other. But night is now on us, and it is well to obey night, so that you may make glad all the Achaeans beside their ships, and most of all your kinspeople and comrades that you have; and I throughout the great city of king Priam shall make glad the Trojan men and Trojan women with trailing robes, who

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<sup>9</sup> Line 295 was rejected by Aristarchus.

αἶ τέ μοι εὐχόμεναι θεῖον δύσονται ἀγῶνα.  
 δῶρα δ' ἄγ' ἀλλήλοισι περικλυτὰ δώομεν ἄμφω,  
 300 ὄφρα τις ᾧδ' εἴπησιν Ἀχαιῶν τε Τρώων τε  
 ἥμὲν ἐμαρνάσθην ἔριδος πέρι θυμοβόροιο,  
 ἦδ' αὖτ' ἐν φιλότῃ διέτμαγεν ἀρθμήσαντε.”

Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας δῶκε ξίφος ἀργυρόηλον,  
 σὺν κολεῷ τε φέρων καὶ ἐντμήτῳ τελαμῶνι·

305 Αἴας δὲ ζωστῆρα δίδου φοίνικι φαεινόν.  
 τῷ δὲ διακρινθέντε ὁ μὲν μετὰ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἦι, ὁ δ' ἐς Τρώων ὄμαδον κίε. τοῖ δ' ἐχάρησαν,  
 ὥς εἶδον ζῶν τε καὶ ἀρτεμέα προσιόντα,  
 Αἴαντος προφυγόντα μένος καὶ χεῖρας ἀάπτους·  
 310 καὶ ῥ' ἦγον προτὶ ἄστυ, ἀελπτέοντες σόον εἶναι.  
 Αἴαντ' αὖθ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 εἰς Ἀγαμέμνονα δῖον ἄγον, κεχαρηότα νίκη.

Οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ κλισίῃσιν ἐν Ἀτρεΐδαο γέγοντο,  
 τοῖσι δὲ βοῦν ἰέρευσεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων

315 ἄρσενα πανταέτηρον ὑπερμενεί Κρονίωνι.  
 τὸν δέρον ἀμφί θ' ἔπον, καί μιν διέχευαν ἅπαντα,  
 μίστυλλον τ' ἄρ' ἐπισταμένως πείραν τ' ὀβελοῖσιν,  
 ὅπτησάν τε περιφραδέως, ἐρύσαντό τε πάντα.

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ παύσαντο πόνου τετύκοντό τε δαῖτα,  
 320 δαίνυντ', οὐδέ τι θυμὸς ἐδεύετο δαιτὸς εἴσης.

νώτοισιν δ' Αἴαντα διηνεκέεσσι γέραιρεν  
 ἥρως Ἀτρεΐδης, εὐρὺ κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων.

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,  
 τοῖς ὁ γέρων πάμπρωτος ὑφαίνειν ἤρχετο μῆτιν

325 Νέστωρ, οὗ καὶ πρόσθεν ἀρίστη φαίνετο βουλή.



## BOOK 7

because of me will enter the assembly of the gods with prayers of thanksgiving. But come, let us give each other glorious gifts, so that many a one of Achaeans and Trojans alike may say: "The two fought in rivalry of soul-devouring strife, but then made a compact and parted in friendship."

When he had thus spoken, he gave him a silver-studded sword bringing it with its scabbard and well-cut baldric; and Aias gave his belt bright with scarlet. So they parted, and one went to the army of the Achaeans, and the other went to the throng of the Trojans. And these rejoiced when they saw Hector coming to join them alive and whole, escaped from the force of Aias and his invincible hands; and they brought him to the city scarce believing that he was safe. And Aias for his part was led by the well-greaved Achaeans to noble Agamemnon, rejoicing at his victory.

And when they came to the huts of the son of Atreus, then did the lord of men, Agamemnon, slay a bull, a male of five years, for the son of Cronos, supreme in might. This they flayed and dressed, and cut it all up. Then they sliced the meat skilfully, and spitted and roasted it carefully and drew everything off the spits. But when they had ceased from their labor and had made ready the meal, they feasted, nor did their hearts lack anything of the equal banquet. And to Aias for his honor was given the long chine by the warrior son of Atreus, wide-ruling Agamemnon. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, first of all the old man began to weave the web of counsel for them, Nestor, whose counsel had earlier also appeared

- ὁ σφιν ἐν φρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ τε καὶ ἄλλοι ἀριστῆες Παναχαιῶν,  
 πολλοὶ γὰρ τεθνᾶσι κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοί,  
 τῶν νῦν αἶμα κελαινὸν ἑύρροον ἀμφὶ Σκάμανδρον  
 330 ἐσκέδασ’ ὀξὺς Ἄρης, ψυχὰι δ’ Αἰδόσδε κατῆλθον·  
 τῷ σε χρὴ πόλεμον μὲν ἄμ’ ἡοὶ παῦσαι Ἀχαιῶν,  
 αὐτοὶ δ’ ἀγρόμενοι κυκλήσομεν ἐνθάδε νεκροὺς  
 βουσι καὶ ἡμιόνοισιν· ἀτὰρ κατακήμεν αὐτοὺς  
 τυτθὸν ἀποπρὸ νεῶν, ὥς κ’ ὅστέα παισὶν ἕκαστος<sup>10</sup>  
 335 οἴκαδ’ ἄγῃ, ὅτ’ ἂν αὐτε νεώμεθα πατρίδα γαίαν.  
 τύμβον δ’ ἀμφὶ πυρὴν ἕνα χεύομεν ἐξαγαγόντες  
 ἄκριτον ἐκ πεδίου.<sup>11</sup> ποτὶ δ’ αὐτὸν δείμομεν ὦκα  
 πύργους ὑψηλοὺς, εἴλαρ νηῶν τε καὶ αὐτῶν.  
 ἐν δ’ αὐτοῖσι πύλας ποιήσομεν εὖ ἀραρυίας,  
 340 ὄφρα δι’ αὐτῶν ἵππηλασίῃ ὁδὸς εἴῃ·  
 ἔκτοσθεν δὲ βαθεῖαν ὀρύξομεν ἐγγύθι τάφρον,  
 ἣ χ’ ἵππον καὶ λαὸν ἐρυκάκοι ἀμφὶς ἐούσα,  
 μή ποτ’ ἐπιβρίσῃ πόλεμος Τρώων ἀγερώχων.”  
 Ὡς ἔφαθ’, οἱ δ’ ἄρα πάντες ἐπήνησαν βασιλῆες.  
 345 Τρώων αὖτ’ ἀγορὴ γένητ’ Ἰλίου ἐν πόλει ἄκρῃ,  
 δεινὴ τετρηχυῖα, παρὰ Πριάμοιο θύρῃσι.  
 τοῖσιν δ’ Ἀντήνωρ πεπνυμένος ἦρχ’ ἀγορεύειν·  
 “κέκλυτέ μεν, Τρῶες καὶ Δάρδανοι ἡδ’ ἐπίκουροι,  
 ὄφρ’ εἴπω τά με θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι κελεύει.  
 350 δεῦτ’ ἄγετ’, Ἀργεῖῃν Ἑλένην καὶ κτήμαθ’ ἄμ’ αὐτῇ  
 δώομεν Ἀτρεΐδῃσιν ἄγειν. νῦν δ’ ὄρκια πιστὰ  
 ψευσάμενοι μαχόμεσθα· τῷ οὐ νύ τι κέρδιον ἡμῖν

the best. He with good intent addressed their assembly and spoke among them: "Son of Atreus and you other chief men of the armies of Achaea, many long-haired Achaeans are dead, whose dark blood keen Ares has now spilt around fair-flowing Scamander, and their souls have gone down to the house of Hades; therefore you must halt the battle of the Achaeans at daybreak, and we will gather up the corpses to wheel here on carts with oxen and mules; and we will burn them a little way from the ships so that each man may carry their bones home to their children, whenever we return again to our native land. And around the pyre let us heap a single mound, drawing it out from the plain for all alike, and quickly by it build a lofty wall, a defense for our ships and for ourselves. And in it let us build gates close-fastening, so that through them there may be a way for the driving of chariots; and outside it let us dig a deep trench hard by, which will intervene and keep back chariots and foot soldiers, in case ever the battle of the lordly Trojans presses heavily on us."

So he spoke, and all the kings assented to it. And by the Trojans likewise was an assembly held in the citadel of Ilios, an assembly fierce and tumultuous, beside Priam's doors. Among them wise Antenor was first to speak, saying: "Hear me, Trojans and Dardanians and allies, while I speak what the heart in my breast tells me. Come on now, let us give Argive Helen and with her the treasure to the sons of Atreus to take away. Now we are fighting having proved false to our solemn oaths, so I have no hope that

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<sup>10</sup> Lines 334 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>11</sup> ἐκ πεδίου: ἐν πεδίῳ Aristophanes (cf. 436).

ἔλπομαι ἐκτελέεσθαι, ἵνα μὴ ῥέξομεν ὦδε.”<sup>12</sup>

Ἦ τοι ὃ γ' ὥς εἰπὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔξετο· τοῖσι δ' ἀνέστη  
355 δῖος Ἀλέξανδρος, Ἑλένης πόσις ἡνκόμοιο,  
ὅς μιν ἀμειβόμενος ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·

“Ἀντήνορ, σὺ μὲν οὐκέτ' ἐμοὶ φίλα ταῦτ' ἀγορεύεις·  
οἶσθα καὶ ἄλλον μῦθον ἀμείνονα τοῦδε νοῆσαι.  
εἰ δ' ἐτέον δὴ τοῦτον ἀπὸ σπουδῆς ἀγορεύεις,  
360 ἐξ ἄρα δὴ τοι ἔπειτα θεοὶ φρένας ὤλεσαν αὐτοί.  
αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ Τρώεσσι μεθ' ἵπποδάμοις ἀγορεύσω·  
ἀντικρὺ δ' ἀπόφημι, γυναιῖκα μὲν οὐκ ἀποδώσω·  
κτήματα δ' ὅσσ' ἀγόμην ἐξ Ἄργεος ἡμέτερον δῶ  
πάντ' ἐθέλω δόμεναι καὶ οἴκοθεν ἄλλ' ἐπιθεῖναι.”

365 Ἦ τοι ὃ γ' ὥς εἰπὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔξετο· τοῖσι δ' ἀνέστη  
Δαρδανίδης Πρίαμος, θεόφιν μῆστωρ ἀτάλαντος,  
ὃ σφιν ἐν φρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπε·  
“κέκλυτέ μεν, Τρῶες καὶ Δάρδανοι ἡδ' ἐπίκουροι,<sup>13</sup>  
ὄφρ' εἴπω τά με θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι κελεύει.

370 νῦν μὲν δόρπον ἔλεσθε κατὰ πτόλιν,<sup>14</sup> ὥς τὸ πάρος  
περ,

καὶ φυλακῆς μνήσασθε καὶ ἐγρήγορθε ἕκαστος·  
ἡῶθεν δ' Ἰδαῖος ἵτω κοίλας ἐπὶ νῆας  
εἰπέμεν Ἀτρεΐδης, Ἀγαμέμνονι καὶ Μενελάῳ,  
μῦθον Ἀλεξάνδροιο, τοῦ εἵνεκα νεῖκος ὄρωρε.  
375 καὶ δὲ τόδ' εἰπέμεναι πυκινὸν ἔπος, αἶ κ' ἐθέλωσι  
παύσασθαι πολέμοιο δυσηχέος, εἰς ὃ κε νεκροὺς  
κῆομεν· ὕστερον αὖτε μαχησόμεθ', εἰς ὃ κε δαίμων

<sup>12</sup> Line 353 was rejected by Aristarchus.

anything will be accomplished to our profit, if we do not do this."

When he had thus spoken, he sat down, and among them rose up noble Alexander, husband of fair-haired Helen; he made answer, and spoke to him winged words: "Antenor, these things you are saying are no longer pleasing to me; you know how to devise better words than these. But if you are really speaking in earnest, then indeed the gods themselves have surely destroyed your senses. But I will speak among the assembly of horse-taming Trojans and declare outright: the woman I will not give back; but the treasure that I brought from Argos to our home, all this am I willing to give, and to add to it from my own possessions."

When he had thus spoken he sat down, and among them rose up Priam, son of Dardanus, peer of the gods in counsel. He with good intent addressed their assembly, and spoke among them: "Hear me, Trojans and Dardanians and allies, while I say what the heart in my breast tells me. For now, take your evening meal throughout the city, just as before, and take thought of keeping watch, and be wakeful every man; but at dawn let Idaeus go to the hollow ships to declare to Atreus' sons, Agamemnon and Menelaus, the words of Alexander, for whose sake strife has arisen. And let him furthermore declare to them this wise suggestion in the hope that they may be minded to cease from dolorous war till we have burned the dead; later we will fight again until a god judges between us, and gives

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<sup>13</sup> Lines 368 f. are omitted in some MSS.

<sup>14</sup> *πτόλιν: στρατόν.*

ἄμμε διακρίνη, δώη δ' ἐτέροισί γε νίκην.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα τοῦ μάλα μὲν κλύον ἦδ'  
ἐπίθοντο,

380 δόρπον ἔπειθ' εἵλοντο κατὰ στρατὸν ἐν τελέεσσιν.<sup>15</sup>  
ἠῶθεν δ' Ἰδαῖος ἔβη κοίλας ἐπὶ νῆας·

τοὺς δ' εὖρ' εἰν ἀγορῇ Δαναοὺς θεράποντας Ἄρηος  
νῆι πάρα πρυμνῇ Ἀγαμέμνονος· αὐτὰρ ὁ τοῖσι  
στὰς ἐν μέσσοισιν μετεφώνεεν ἠπύτα κῆρυξ·

385 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ τε καὶ ἄλλοι ἀριστῆες Παναχαιῶν,<sup>16</sup>  
ἠνώγει Πρίαμός τε καὶ ἄλλοι Τρῶες ἀγανοὶ  
εἰπεῖν, αἱ κέ περ ὕμμι φίλον καὶ ἠδὺ γένοιτο,  
μῦθον Ἀλεξάνδροιο, τοῦ εἵνεκα νείκος ὄρωρε.

κτῆματα μὲν ὅσ' Ἀλέξανδρος κοίλῃς ἐνὶ νηυσὶν  
390 ἠγάγετο Τροίηνδ'—ὥς πρὶν ὥφελλ' ἀπολέσθαι—  
πάντ' ἐθέλει δόμεναι καὶ ἔτ' οἴκοθεν ἄλλ' ἐπιθεῖναι·  
κουριδίην δ' ἄλοχον Μενελάου κυδαλίμοιο  
οὐ φησιν δώσειν· ἦ μὲν Τρῶές γε κέλονται.

καὶ δὲ τόδ' ἠνώγεον εἰπεῖν ἔπος, αἱ κ' ἐθέλητε  
395 παύσασθαι πολέμοιο δυσηχέος, εἰς ὃ κε νεκροὺς  
κῆομεν· ὕστερον αὖτε μαχησόμεθ', εἰς ὃ κε δαίμων  
ἄμμε διακρίνη, δώη δ' ἐτέροισί γε νίκην.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ·  
ὁψὲ δὲ δὴ μετέειπε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·

400 “μήτ' ἄρ τις νῦν κτήματ' Ἀλεξάνδροιο δεχέσθω  
μήθ' Ἑλένην· γνωτὸν δὲ καὶ ὅς μάλα νήπιός ἐστιν,  
ὥς ἦδη Τρῶεσσιν ὀλέθρου πείρατ' ἐφήπται.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἐπίαχον νῆες Ἀχαιῶν,  
μῦθον ἀγασσάμενοι Διομήδεος ἵπποδάμοιο.

## BOOK 7

victory to one side or the other.”

So he spoke, and they eagerly heard him, and obeyed; then they took their evening meal throughout the army by companies, and at dawn Idaeus went to the hollow ships. There in the place of assembly he found the Danaans, attendants of Ares, beside the stern of Agamemnon's ship; and the loud-voiced herald stood in their midst and spoke among them: “Son of Atreus, and you other chief men of the armies of Achaea, Priam and the other lordly Trojans have commanded me to declare to you—in the hope that it might be your wish and your pleasure—the words of Alexander, for whose sake strife has arisen. The treasure that Alexander brought to Troy in his hollow ships—I wish he had perished first!—all this he is minded to give, and to add to it from his own possessions; but the wedded wife of glorious Menelaus he declares he will not give, though indeed the Trojans ask him do it. Moreover they commanded me to declare to you this word also, in the hope that you may be minded to cease from dolorous war till we have burned the dead; later we will fight again until a god judges between us, and gives victory to one side or the other.”

So he spoke, and they all became hushed in silence. But at length there spoke among them Diomedes, good at the war cry: “Let no man now accept the treasure from Alexander, nor Helen either; known it is, even to him who has no sense at all, that now the coils of destruction have been fastened on to the Trojans.”

So he spoke, and all the sons of the Achaeans shouted aloud, applauding the words of Diomedes, tamer of

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<sup>15</sup> Line 380 is omitted in some MSS.

<sup>16</sup> Line 385 is omitted in some MSS.

- 405 καὶ τότε ἄρ' Ἰδαῖον προσέφη κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 “Ἰδαῖ, ἧ τοι μῦθον Ἀχαιῶν αὐτὸς ἀκούεις,  
 ὥς τοι ὑποκρίνονται· ἐμοὶ δ' ἐπιανδάνει οὕτως.  
 ἀμφὶ δὲ νεκροῖσιν κατακαίμεν οὐ τι μεγαίρω·  
 οὐ γάρ τις φειδῶ νεκῶν κατατεθνηώτων  
 410 γίγνεται, ἐπεὶ κε θάνωσι, πυρὸς μελίσσόμεν ὦκα.  
 ὄρκια δὲ Ζεὺς ἴστω, ἐρίγδουπος πόσις Ἥρης.”  
 ὣς εἰπὼν τὸ σκῆπτρον ἀνέσχεθε πᾶσι θεοῖσιν,  
 ἄψορρον δ' Ἰδαῖος ἔβη προτὶ Ἴλιον ἱρήν.  
 οἱ δ' ἕατ' εἰν ἀγορῇ Τρῶες καὶ Δαρδανῖνες,  
 415 πάντες ὁμηγερέες, ποτιδέγμενοι ὀππότε ἄρ' ἔλθοι  
 Ἰδαῖος· ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἦλθε καὶ ἀγγελίην ἀπέειπε  
 στὰς ἐν μέσσοισιν· τοὶ δ' ὀπλίζοντο μάλ' ὦκα,  
 ἀμφοτέρων, νέκυάς τ' ἀγέμεν, ἕτεροι δὲ μεθ' ὕλην.  
 Ἀργεῖοι δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐυσσέλμων ἀπὸ νηῶν  
 420 ὀτρύνοντο νέκυς τ' ἀγέμεν, ἕτεροι δὲ μεθ' ὕλην.  
 Ἥελιος μὲν ἔπειτα νέον προσέβαλλεν ἀρούρας,  
 ἐξ ἀκαλαρρέϊταο βαθυρρόου Ὀκεανοῖο  
 οὐρανὸν εἰσανιών· οἱ δ' ἦντεον ἀλλήλοισιν.  
 ἔνθα διαγνῶναι χαλεπῶς ἦν ἄνδρα ἕκαστον·  
 425 ἀλλ' ὕδατι νίζοντες ἄπο βρότον αἱματόεντα,  
 δάκρυα θερμὰ χέοντες ἀμαξάων ἐπάειραν.  
 οὐδ' εἴα κλαίειν Πρίαμος μέγας· οἱ δὲ σιωπῇ  
 νεκροὺς πυρκαϊῆς ἐπενήνεον ἀχνύμενοι κῆρ,  
 ἐν δὲ πυρὶ πρήσαντες ἔβαν προτὶ Ἴλιον ἱρήν.  
 430 ὥς δ' αὐτὼς ἐτέρωθεν ἐυνήμιδες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 νεκροὺς πυρκαϊῆς ἐπινήνεον ἀχνύμενοι κῆρ,  
 ἐν δὲ πυρὶ πρήσαντες ἔβαν κοίλας ἐπὶ νῆας.



## BOOK 7

horses. Then to Idaeus spoke lord Agamemnon: "Idaeus, surely you yourself hear the words of the Achaeans, how they make answer to you; and so it is pleasing to me also. But as regards the dead I in no way grudge that you burn them; for there is no sparing of dead corpses. When they die, give them their share of fire. But to our oaths let Zeus be witness, the loud-thundering lord of Hera."

So saying, he lifted up his staff to all the gods, and Idaeus went back to sacred Ilios. Now they were sitting in assembly, Trojans and Dardanians alike, all gathered together waiting until Idaeus should come; and he came and stood among them and declared his message. Then they made ready very quickly for both tasks, some to bring the dead, and others to seek for wood. And the Argives for their part rushed from the benched ships, some to bring the dead and others to seek for wood.

The Sun was now just striking on the fields, as he rose from softly gliding, deep-flowing Oceanus, and climbed the heavens, when the two armies met together. Then it was a hard task to recognize each man; but with water they washed from them the clotted blood, and lifted them on to the wagons, shedding hot tears. But great Priam would not allow wailing; so in silence they heaped the corpses on the pyre, inwardly grieving; and when they had burned them with fire they went to sacred Ilios. And in like manner on the other side the well-greaved Achaeans heaped the corpses on the pyre, inwardly grieving, and when they had burned them with fire they went to the hollow ships.

Ἥμος δ' οὐτ' ἄρ πω ἦώς, ἔτι δ' ἀμφιλύκη νύξ,  
 τῆμος ἄρ' ἀμφὶ πυρὴν κριτὸς ἔγρετο λαὸς Ἀχαιῶν,  
 435 τύμβον δ' ἀμφ' αὐτὴν ἕνα ποίεον ἐξαγαγόντες  
 ἄκριτον ἐκ πεδίου,<sup>17</sup> ποτὶ δ' αὐτὸν τείχος ἔδειμαν  
 πύργους θ' ὑψηλοὺς, εἴλαρ νηῶν τε καὶ αὐτῶν.  
 ἐν δ' αὐτοῖσι πύλας ἐνεποίεον εὖ ἀραρυίας,  
 ὄφρα δι' αὐτῶν ἱππηλασίη ὁδὸς εἴη·  
 440 ἔκτοσθεν δὲ βαθεῖαν ἐπ' αὐτῷ τάφρον ὄρυξαν,  
 εὐρείαν μέγαλην, ἐν δὲ σκόλοπας κατέπηξαν.

Ὡς οἱ μὲν πονέοντο κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοί·  
 οἱ δὲ θεοὶ παρ Ζηνὶ καθήμενοι ἀστεροπητῇ<sup>18</sup>  
 θηεῦντο μέγα ἔργον Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων.  
 445 τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἦρχε Ποσειδάων ἐνοσίχθων·  
 “Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἥ ρά τίς ἐστι βροτῶν ἐπ' ἀπείρονα γαῖαν  
 ὅς τις ἔτ' ἀθανάτοισι νόον καὶ μῆτιν ἐνίψει;  
 οὐχ ὁράας ὅτι δὴ αὖτε κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 τείχος ἐτειχίσσαντο νεῶν ὕπερ, ἀμφὶ δὲ τάφρον  
 450 ἥλασαν, οὐδὲ θεοῖσι δόσαν κλειτὰς ἐκατόμβας;  
 τοῦ δ' ἥ τοι κλέος ἔσται ὅσον τ' ἐπικίδναται ἦώς·  
 τοῦ δ' ἐπιλήσονται ὃ τ' ἐγὼ καὶ Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων  
 ἦρῳ Λαομέδοντι πολίσσαμεν ἀθλήσαντε.”

Τὸν δὲ μέγ' ὀχθήσας προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς.  
 455 “ὦ πόποι, Ἐννοσίγαι' εὐρυσθενές, οἷον ἔειπες.  
 ἄλλος κέν τις τοῦτο θεῶν δείσειε νόημα,  
 ὃς σέο πολλὸν ἀφανρότερος χεῖράς τε μένος τε  
 σὸν δ' ἥ τοι κλέος ἔσται ὅσον τ' ἐπικίδναται ἦώς.

<sup>17</sup> ἐκ πεδίου: ἐν πεδίῳ Aristophanes (cf. 337).

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Now when it was not yet dawn, but night was still between light and dark, then about the pyre gathered the chosen army of the Achaeans, and they made about it a single mound, drawing it out from the plain for all alike; and by it they built a wall and a lofty rampart, a defense for their ships and for themselves. And in it they made gates, close-fastening, so that through them there might be a way for the driving of chariots. And outside it they dug a deep trench hard by, wide and great, and they planted stakes in it.

Thus they toiled, the long-haired Achaeans; and the gods, as they sat by the side of Zeus, the lord of the lightning, marveled at the great work of the bronze-clad Achaeans. And among them Poseidon, the shaker of earth, was first to speak: "Father Zeus, is there now anyone of mortals on the face of the boundless earth who will declare to the immortals his mind and counsel any more? Do you not see that the long-haired Achaeans have done it again, building a wall to defend their ships, and about it have drawn a trench, but have not given glorious hecatombs to the gods? The fame of it will surely reach as far as the dawn spreads, and men will forget the wall that I and Phoebus Apollo toiled over making for the warrior Laomedon."

Then greatly troubled, Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, spoke to him: "Well, now, wide-ruling Shaker of the Earth, what a thing you have said! Someone else of the gods might perhaps fear this thought, one who is feebler far than you in hand and force; but your fame will surely reach as far as the

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<sup>18</sup> Lines 443–464 were rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

ἄγρει μάν, ὅτ' ἂν αὖτε κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 460 οἷχωνται σὺν νηυσὶ φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν,  
 τεῖχος ἀναρρήξας τὸ μὲν εἰς ἄλα πᾶν καταχεῦαι,  
 αὖτις δ' ἠϊόνα μεγάλην ψαμάθοισι καλύψαι,  
 ὥς κέν τοι μέγα τεῖχος ἀμαλδύννηται Ἀχαιῶν."

ὣς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον,  
 465 δύσετο δ' ἥελιος, τετέλεστο δὲ ἔργον Ἀχαιῶν,  
 βουφόνεον δὲ κατὰ κλισίας καὶ δόρπον ἔλοντο.  
 νῆες δ' ἐκ Δήμνοιο παρέστασαν οἶνον ἄγουσαι  
 πολλαί, τὰς προέηκεν Ἰησονίδης Εὐνήος,  
 τόν ῥ' ἔτεχ' Ὑψιπύλη ὑπ' Ἰήσони, ποιμένι λαῶν.  
 470 χωρὶς δ' Ἀτρεΐδης, Ἀγαμέμνονι καὶ Μενελάω,  
 δῶκεν Ἰησονίδης ἀγέμεν μέθην, χίλια μέτρα.

ἔνθεν οἰνίζοντο κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοί,  
 ἄλλοι μὲν χαλκῷ, ἄλλοι δ' αἶθωνι σιδήρῳ,  
 ἄλλοι δὲ ῥινοῖς, ἄλλοι δ' αὐτῇσι βόεσσιν,  
 475 ἄλλοι δ' ἀνδραπόδεσσι· τίθεντο δὲ δαῖτα θάλειαν.<sup>19</sup>  
 παννύχιοι μὲν ἔπειτα κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 δαίνυντο, Τρῶες δὲ κατὰ πτόλιν ἡδ' ἐπίκουροι  
 παννύχιος δὲ σφιν κακὰ μῆδετο μητίετα Ζεὺς  
 σμερδαλέα κτυπέων. τοὺς δὲ χλωρὸν δέος ἦρει  
 480 οἶνον δ' ἐκ δεπάων χαμάδις χέον, οὐδέ τις ἔτλη  
 πρὶν πιέειν, πρὶν λείψαι ὑπερμενεί Κρονίῳνι.  
 κοιμήσαντ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα καὶ ὕπνου δῶρον ἔλοντο.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Line 475 was rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

<sup>20</sup> Line 482 was omitted by Zenodotus.

## BOOK 7

dawn spreads. Come now, once the long-haired Achaeans have gone with their ships to their dear native land, burst apart the wall and sweep it all into the sea, and cover the great beach again with sand, so that the great wall of the Achaeans may be destroyed."

So they spoke to one another, and the sun set, and the work of the Achaeans was accomplished; and they slaughtered oxen throughout the huts and took their evening meal. And ships bringing wine were at hand from Lemnos, many of them, sent by Jason's son, Euneos, whom Hypsipyle bore to Jason, shepherd of men. And separately to the sons of Atreus, Agamemnon and Menelaus, had Euneos given wine to be brought, a thousand measures. From these ships the long-haired Achaeans bought wine, some for bronze, some for gleaming iron, some for hides, some for live cattle, and some for slaves; and they prepared a rich feast. So the whole night through the long-haired Achaeans feasted, and the Trojans likewise in the city, and their allies; and all night long Zeus, the counselor, devised them evil, thundering terrifyingly. Then pale fear seized them, and they let the wine flow from their cups on to the ground, and no man dared drink until he had made a drink offering to the son of Cronos, supreme in might. Then they lay down, and took the gift of sleep.

- Ἦὼς μὲν κροκόπεπλος ἐκίδνατο πᾶσαν ἐπ' αἶαν,<sup>1</sup>  
 Ζεὺς δὲ θεῶν ἀγορὴν ποιήσατο τερπικέραυνος  
 ἀκροτάτῃ κορυφῇ πολυδειράδος Οὐλύμποιο·  
 αὐτὸς δέ σφ' ἀγόρευε, θεοὶ δ' ὑπὸ πάντες ἄκουον.
- 5 “κέκλυτέ με, πάντες τε θεοὶ πᾶσαί τε θέαιναι,  
 ὄφρ' εἵπω τά με θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι κελεύει.<sup>2</sup>  
 μήτε τις οὖν θήλεια θεὸς τό γε μήτε τις ἄρσην  
 πειράτῳ διακέρσαι ἐμὸν ἔπος, ἀλλ' ἅμα πάντες  
 αἰνεῖτ', ὅφρα τάχιστα τελευτήσω τάδε ἔργα.
- 10 ὃν δ' ἂν ἐγὼν ἀπάνευθε θεῶν ἐθέλοντα νοήσω  
 ἐλθόντ' ἢ Τρώεσσιν ἀρηγέμεν ἢ Δαναοῖσι,  
 πληγεῖς οὐ κατὰ κόσμον ἐλεύσεται Οὐλύμπόνδε·  
 ἢ μιν ἐλὼν ῥίψω ἐς Τάρταρον ἡρόεντα,  
 τῆλε μάλ', ἥχι βάθιστον ὑπὸ χθονός ἐστι βέρεθρον,
- 15 ἔνθα σιδήρειαί τε πύλαι καὶ χάλκεος οὐδός,  
 τόσσον ἔνερθ' Ἀίδεω ὅσον οὐρανός ἐστ' ἀπὸ γαίης·  
 γνώσεται ἔπειθ' ὅσον εἰμὶ θεῶν κάρτιστος ἀπάντων.  
 εἰ δ' ἄγε πειρήσασθε, θεοί, ἵνα εἴδετε πάντες.  
 σειρὴν χρυσεῖην ἐξ οὐρανόθεν κρεμάσαντες
- 20 πάντες τ' ἐξάπτεσθε θεοὶ πᾶσαί τε θέαιναι·  
 ἀλλ' οὐκ ἂν ἐρύσαιτ' ἐξ οὐρανόθεν πεδίονδε

## BOOK 8

Now Dawn the saffron-robed was spreading over the face of the earth, and Zeus who hurls the thunderbolt made an assembly of the gods on the topmost peak of many-ridged Olympus, and himself addressed their assembly; and all the gods gave ear: "Hear me, all you gods and goddesses, while I speak what the heart in my breast tells me. Let not any goddess nor any god try this, to thwart my word, but all alike assent to it, so that I may quickly bring these deeds to pass. Whomever I notice minded, apart from the gods, to go and assist either Trojans or Danaans, struck by lightning and in a bad way will he come back to Olympus; or I shall take and hurl him into murky Tartarus, far, far away, where is the deepest gulf beneath the earth, where the gates are of iron and the threshold of bronze, as far beneath Hades as heaven is above earth: then you will recognize how far the mightiest am I of all gods. But come on, just try it, you gods, so that you all may know. Make fast from heaven a chain of gold, and lay hold of it, all you gods and all you goddesses; yet you could not drag to earth out of heaven Zeus the counselor most high,

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<sup>1</sup> This line was placed by Zenodotus after 52.

<sup>2</sup> Line 6 is omitted in many MSS.

Ζῆν' ὕπατον μήστωρ', οὐδ' εἰ μάλα πολλὰ κάμοιτε.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ καὶ ἐγὼ πρόφρων ἐθέλοιμι ἐρύσσαι,  
 αὐτῇ κεν γαίῃ ἐρύσαιμ' αὐτῇ τε θαλάσῃ·

- 25 σειρὴν μὲν κεν ἔπειτα περὶ ῥίον Οὐλύμποιο<sup>3</sup>  
 δησαίμην, τὰ δέ κ' αὖτε μετήορα πάντα γένοιτο.  
 τόσσον ἐγὼ περί τ' εἰμὶ θεῶν περί τ' εἰμ' ἀνθρώπων.”

Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ<sup>4</sup>  
 μῦθον ἀγασσάμενοι· μάλα γὰρ κρατερῶς ἀγόρευσεν.

- 30 ὁψὲ δὲ δὴ μετέειπε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·  
 “ὦ πάτερ ἡμέτερε Κρονίδη, ὕπατε κρειόντων,  
 εὖ νυ καὶ ἡμεῖς ἴδμεν ὅ τοι σθένος οὐκ ἐπικιχτόν·  
 ἀλλ' ἔμψης Δαναῶν ὀλοφυρόμεθ' αἰχμητῶν,  
 οἳ κεν δὴ κακὸν οἶτον ἀναπλήσαντες ὄλωνται.

- 35 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι πολέμου μὲν ἀφεξόμεθ', ὥς σὺ κελεύεις.  
 βουλὴν δ' Ἀργείοις ὑποθησόμεθ', ἣ τις ὀνήσει,  
 ὥς μὴ πάντες ὄλωνται ὀδυσαμένοιο τεοῖο.”<sup>5</sup>

- Τὴν δ' ἐπιμειδήσας προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς·  
 “θάρσει, Τριτογένεια, φίλον τέκος· οὐ νύ τι θυμῷ  
 40 πρόφρονι μυθέομαι, ἐθέλω δέ τοι ἥπιος εἶναι.”

- Ὡς εἰπὼν ὑπ' ὄχεσφι τιτύσκετο χαλκόποδ' ἵππω,  
 ὠκυπέτα, χρυσέῃσιν ἐθείρησιν κομόωντε,  
 χρυσὸν δ' αὐτὸς ἔδυνε περὶ χροῖ, γέντο δ' ἰμάσθλην  
 χρυσεῖην εὐτυχτον, ἐοῦ δ' ἐπιβήσετο δίφρου,  
 45 μᾶστιξεν δ' ἐλάαν· τῷ δ' οὐκ ἀέκοντε πετέσθην  
 μεσσηγὺς γαίης τε καὶ οὐρανοῦ ἀστερόεντος.  
 Ἴδην δ' ἵκανε πολυπίδακα, μητέρα θηρῶν,

<sup>3</sup> Lines 25 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.



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not even though you labored mightily. But whenever I was really minded to pull with all my heart, then with earth itself I would draw it up and with the sea as well; and the rope I would then bind around a peak of Olympus and all those things would hang in space. By so much do I surpass gods and surpass men."

So he spoke, and they all became hushed in silence, marveling at his words; for very strongly had he addressed their assembly. But finally there spoke among them the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene: "Father of us all, son of Cronos, high above all lords, of course we, too, know that your might is irresistible, but even so we have pity for the Danaan spearmen who now will perish and fulfill an evil fate. Yet even so we will refrain from battle, just as you tell us; but counsel we will offer to the Argives which will benefit them, so that they may not all perish because of your wrath."

Then with a smile spoke to her Zeus the cloud-gatherer: "Take heart, Tritogeneia, dear child. In no way do I speak my real intention, but am minded to be kindly to you."

So saying, he harnessed beneath his chariot his bronze-hooved horses, swift of flight, with flowing manes of gold; and with gold he clad himself about his body, and grasped the well-made whip of gold, and stepped into his chariot and touched the horses with the whip to start them; and nothing loath the pair sped onward midway between earth and starry heaven. To Ida he came, the many-fountained,

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<sup>4</sup> Lines 28–40 were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>5</sup> Line 37 was omitted by Zenodotus.

Γάργαρον, ἔνθα τέ οἱ τέμενος βωμός τε θυήεις.  
 ἔνθ' ἵππους ἔστησε πατήρ ἀνδρῶν τε θεῶν τε  
 50 λύσας ἐξ ὀχέων, κατὰ δ' ἡέρα πουλὺν ἔχευεν.  
 αὐτὸς δ' ἐν κορυφῇσι καθέζετο κύδει γαίῳν,  
 εἰσορόων Τρώων τε πόλιν καὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.

Οἱ δ' ἄρα δεῖπνον ἔλοντο κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 ρίμφα κατὰ κλισίας, ἀπὸ δ' αὐτοῦ θωρήσσοντο·  
 55 Τρῶες δ' αὖθ' ἐτέρωθεν ἀνὰ πτόλιν ὀπλίζοντο,  
 πανρότεροι· μέμασαν δὲ καὶ ὥς ὑσμῖνι μάχεσθαι,  
 χρεοῖ ἀναγκαίῃ, πρό τε παίδων καὶ πρὸ γυναικῶν.  
 πᾶσαι δ' ὠίγυνντο πύλαι, ἐκ δ' ἔσσυτο λαός,  
 πεζοὶ θ' ἱππῆές τε· πολὺς δ' ὀρυμαγδὸς ὀρώρει.

60 Οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἐς χῶρον ἓνα ξυνιόντες ἵκοντο,  
 σύν ῥ' ἔβαλον ῥινούς, σὺν δ' ἔγχεα καὶ μέν' ἀνδρῶν  
 χαλκεοθωρήκων· ἀτὰρ ἀσπίδες ὀμφαλόεσσαι  
 ἔπληντ' ἀλλήλησι, πολὺς δ' ὀρυμαγδὸς ὀρώρει.  
 ἔνθα δ' ἄμ' οἰμωγή τε καὶ εὐχολὴ πέλεν ἀνδρῶν  
 65 ὀλλύντων τε καὶ ὀλλυμένων, ῥέε δ' αἵματι γαῖα.

Ὅφρα μὲν ἡὼς ἦν καὶ ἀέξετο ἱερὸν ἦμαρ,  
 τόφρα μάλ' ἀμφοτέρων βέλε' ἤπτετο, πῖπτε δὲ λαός.  
 ἦμος δ' ἡέλιος μέσον οὐρανὸν ἀμφιβεβήκει,  
 καὶ τότε δὴ χρύσεια πατήρ ἐτίταινε τάλαντα·  
 70 ἐν δὲ τίθει δύο κῆρε τανηλεγέος θανάτοιο,  
 Τρώων θ' ἵπποδάμων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων,  
 ἔλκε δὲ μέσσα λαβών. ῥέπε δ' αἰσιμον ἦμαρ Ἀχαιῶν.  
 αἱ μὲν Ἀχαιῶν κῆρες ἐπὶ χθονὶ πουλυβοτείρῃ<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Lines 73 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

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mother of wild beasts, to Gargarus, where is his precinct and his fragrant altar. There did the father of men and gods stay his horses, and loose them from the chariot, and shed thick mist over them; and he himself sat among the mountain peaks exulting in his glory, looking upon the city of the Trojans and the ships of the Achaeans.

But the long-haired Achaeans took their meal hastily throughout the huts, and after eating arrayed themselves in armor; and in like manner the Trojans on their side armed themselves throughout the city; fewer they were, but even so they were eager to contend in battle through utter necessity, to protect their children and their wives. And all the gates were opened, and the army rushed out, both foot soldiers and charioteers; and a great din arose.

Now when they had met together and come into one place, then they dashed together their shields and spears and the fury of bronze-mailed warriors; and the bossed shields pressed one on another, and a great din arose. Then were heard alike the sound of groaning and the cry of triumph of the slayers and the slain, and the earth flowed with blood.

Now as long as it was morning and the holy day was waxing, so long the missiles of either side reached their mark, and the men kept falling. But when the sun had bestrode mid heaven, then it was that the Father lifted up his golden scales, and set in them two fates of grievous death, one for the horse-taming Trojans, and one for the bronze-clad Achaeans; then he grasped the balance by the middle and raised it, and down sank the day of doom of the Achaeans. So the Achaeans' fates settled down on to the bounteous

- 75 ἐξέσθην, Τρώων δὲ πρὸς οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἄερθεν.  
 αὐτὸς δ' ἐξ Ἰδης μεγάλ' ἔκτυπε, δαιόμενον δὲ  
 ἦκε σέλας μετὰ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν· οἱ δὲ ἰδόντες  
 θάμβησαν, καὶ πάντας ὑπὸ χλωρὸν δέος εἶλεν.  
 "Ενθ' οὗτ' Ἰδομενεὺς τλῇ μίμνειν οὗτ' Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 οὔτε δὺ Αἴαντες μενέτην, θεράποντες Ἄρηος·  
 80 Νέστωρ οἶος ἔμιμνε Γερήνιος, οὔρος Ἀχαιῶν,  
 οὔ τι ἐκών, ἀλλ' ἵππος ἐτείρετο,<sup>7</sup> τὸν βάλεν ἰῶ  
 δῖος Ἀλέξανδρος, Ἑλένης πόσις ἠυκόμοιο,  
 ἄκρην καὶ κορυφὴν, ὅθι τε πρῶται τρίχες ἵππων  
 κρανίῳ ἐμπεφύασι, μάλιστα δὲ καίριόν ἐστιν.  
 85 ἀλγῆσας δ' ἀνέπαλτο, βέλος δ' εἰς ἐγκέφαλον δῦ,  
 σὺν δ' ἵππους ἐτάραξε κυλινδόμενος περὶ χαλκῶ.  
 ὄφρ' ὁ γέρων ἵπποιο παρηγορίας ἀπέταμνε  
 φασγάνῳ αἰσσω, τόφρ' Ἑκτορος ὠκέες ἵπποι  
 ἦλθον ἀν' ἰωχμὸν θρασὺν ἠνίοχον φορέοντες  
 90 Ἑκτορα. καὶ νῦν κεν ἔνθ' ὁ γέρων ἀπὸ θυμὸν ὄλεσσειν  
 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' ὁζὺ νόησε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
 σμερδαλέον δ' ἐβόησεν ἐποτρύνων Ὀδυσῆα·  
 "διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεῦ,  
 πῇ φεύγεις μετὰ νῶτα βαλὼν κακὸς ὥς ἐν ὀμίλῳ;  
 95 μὴ τίς τοι φεύγοντι μεταφρένῳ ἐν δόρῳ πῆξῃ.  
 ἀλλὰ μέν', ὄφρα γέροντος ἀπώσομεν ἄγριον ἄνδρα."  
 "Ὡς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἐσάκουσε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσ-  
 σεύς,  
 ἀλλὰ παρήϊξεν κοίλας ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.

<sup>7</sup> ἐτείρετο: ἐδάμνατο Aristarchus.

## BOOK 8

earth and those of the Trojans were raised aloft toward wide heaven. Then himself he thundered aloud from Ida, and sent a blazing flash into the army of the Achaeans; and at the sight of it they were struck with wonder, and pale fear seized them all.

Then neither Idomeneus dared remain, nor Agamemnon, nor yet the two Aiantes, attendants of Ares; only Nestor of Gerenia remained, the guardian of the Achaeans, and he not at all of his own will, but his horse was wounded, since noble Alexander, husband of fair-haired Helen, had struck him with an arrow on the crown of the head where the first hairs of horses grow on the skull, and where is the deadliest spot. So, stung with agony the horse reared up as the arrow sank into his brain, and he threw into confusion horses and chariot as he writhed on the bronze. And while the old man sprang down and with his sword was cutting away the traces, meanwhile the swift horses of Hector came on through the tumult, carrying a bold charioteer, Hector. And now would the old man there have lost his life, had not Diomedes, good at the war cry, been quick to notice; and he shouted with a terrible shout, urging on Odysseus: "Zeus-born son of Laertes, Odysseus of many wiles, where are you fleeing with your back turned, like a coward in the throng? Watch out that as you flee some man does not plant his spear in your back. But hold your ground, so that we may thrust back from old Nestor this wild warrior."

So he spoke, but much-enduring noble Odysseus heard him not, but dashed by to the hollow ships of the Achaeans.

- Τυδείδης δ' αὐτός περ ἔων προμάχοισιν ἐμίχθη,  
 100 στῇ δὲ πρόσθ' ἵππων Νηληιάδαο γέροντος,  
 καί μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “ὦ γέρον, ἦ μάλα δὴ σε νέοι τείρουσι μαχηταί,  
 σὴ δὲ βίη λέλνται, χαλεπὸν δέ σε γῆρας ὀπάζει,<sup>8</sup>  
 ἥπεδανὸς δέ νύ τοι θεράπων, βραδέες δέ τοι ἵπποι.  
 105 ἀλλ' ἄγ' ἐμῶν ὀχέων ἐπιβήσεο, ὄφρα ἴδῃαι  
 οἷοι Τρῳῖοι ἵπποι, ἐπιστάμενοι πεδίοιο  
 κραιπνὰ μάλ' ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα διωκέμεν ἡδὲ φέβεσθαι,  
 οὓς ποτ' ἀπ' Αἰνείαν ἐλόμην, μήστωρ<sup>9</sup> φόβοιο.<sup>10</sup>  
 τούτῳ μὲν θεράποντε κομείτων, τῷδε δὲ νῶι  
 110 Τρῳσὶν ἐφ' ἵπποδάμοις ἰθύνομεν, ὄφρα καὶ Ἔκτωρ  
 εἴσεται εἰ καὶ ἐμὸν δόρυ μαίνεται ἐν παλάμῃσιν.”  
 ὣς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθησε Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ.  
 Νεστορέας μὲν ἔπειθ' ἵππους θεράποντε κομείτην,  
 ἴφθιμος<sup>11</sup> Σθένελός τε καὶ Εὐρυμέδων ἀγαπήνῳρ·  
 115 τῷ δ' εἰς ἀμφοτέρῳ Διομήδεος ἄρματα βήτην.  
 Νέστωρ δ' ἐν χείρεσσι λάβ' ἡνία σιγαλόεντα,  
 μάστιξεν δ' ἵππους· τάχα δ' Ἔκτορος ἄγχι γέγοντο.  
 τοῦ δ' ἰθὺς μεμαῶτος ἀκόντισε Τυδέος υἱός·  
 καὶ τοῦ μὲν ῥ' ἀφάμαρτεν, ὃ δ' ἡνίοχον θεράποντα,  
 120 υἱὸν ὑπερθύμου Θηβαίου Ἥνιοπῆα,  
 ἵππων ἡνί' ἔχοντα βάλε στῆθος παρὰ μαζόν.  
 ἥριπε δ' ἐξ ὀχέων, ὑπερώησαν δέ οἱ ἵπποι  
 ὠκύποδες· τοῦ δ' αὖθι λύθη ψυχὴ τε μένος τε.  
 Ἔκτορα δ' αἰνὸν ἄχος πύκασε φρένας ἡνιόχοιο.

<sup>8</sup> ὀπάζει: ικάνει (cf. 4. 321).

But the son of Tydeus, alone though he was, mixed with the foremost fighters, and stood in front of the horses of the old man, Neleus' son, and spoke and addressed him with winged words: "Old sir, clearly young warriors are wearing you down; but your might is broken and grievous old age attends you, and your attendant is a weakling and your horses slow. But come, mount my chariot, so that you may see of what sort are the horses of Tros, well skilled to course swiftly here and there over the plain whether in pursuit or in flight, the ones I took from Aeneas, devisers of rout. Your horses let our two attendants look after, but these two shall you and I drive straight against the horse-taming Trojans, so that Hector too may know whether my spear, too, rages in my hands."

So he spoke, and the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, failed not to obey. So the mares of Nestor were looked after by the two attendants, mighty Sthenelus and Eurymedon the kindly; and they, both of them, mounted the chariot of Diomedes. Nestor took in his hands the shining reins, and touched the horses with the whip, and speedily they came up to Hector. At him then as he charged straight at them the son of Tydeus made a cast: him he missed, but his attendant who drove the chariot, Eniopeus, son of Thebaeus high of heart, as he was holding the reins, he struck on the chest beside the nipple. So he fell from the chariot, and the swift-footed horses swerved aside; and there his spirit and his strength were loosed. Then was the mind of Hector clouded with dread sorrow

<sup>9</sup> μήστωρ: μήστωρα (cf. 5. 272).

<sup>10</sup> Line 108 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>11</sup> ἴφθιμος: ἴφθιμοι.

- 125 τὸν μὲν ἔπειτ' εἵασε, καὶ ἀχνύμενός περ ἑταίρου,  
 κείσθαι, ὃ δ' ἡνίοχον μέθεπε θρασύν· οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔτι δὴν  
 ἵππῳ δενέσθην σημάντορος· αἶψα γὰρ εὗρεν  
 Ἴφιτίδην Ἀρχεπτόλεμον θρασύν, ὃν ῥα τόθ' ἵππων  
 ὠκυπόδων ἐπέβησε, δίδου δέ οἱ ἡνία χερσίν.
- 130 Ἔνθα κε λοιγὸς ἔην καὶ ἀμήχανα ἔργα γέγοντο,  
 καὶ νύ κε σήκασθην κατὰ Ἴλιον ἡύτε ἄρνες,  
 εἰ μὴ ἄρ' ὅξυν νόησε πατήρ ἀνδρῶν τε θεῶν τε.  
 βροντήσας δ' ἄρα δεινὸν ἀφήκ' ἀργήτα κεραυνόν,  
 καδ δὲ πρόσθ' ἵππων Διομήδεος ἦκε χαμᾶζε·
- 135 δεινὴ δὲ φλόξ ὦρτο θεεῖου καιομένοιο,  
 τῷ δ' ἵππῳ δείσαντε καταπτῆτην ὑπ' ὄχεσφι.  
 Νέστορα δ' ἐκ χειρῶν φύγον ἡνία σιγαλόεντα,<sup>12</sup>  
 δείσε δ' ὃ γ' ἐν θυμῷ, Διομήδεα δὲ προσέειπε·  
 “Τυδεΐδη, ἄγε δὴ αὖτε φόβονδ' ἔχε μώνυχας ἵππους.
- 140 ἦ οὐ γιγνώσκεις ὅ τοι ἐκ Διὸς οὐχ ἔπετ' ἀλκή;  
 νῦν μὲν γὰρ τούτῳ Κρονίδης Ζεὺς κῦδος ὀπάζει  
 σήμερον· ὕστερον αὖτε καὶ ἡμῖν, αἳ κ' ἐθέλῃσι,  
 δώσει. ἀνὴρ δέ κεν οὔ τι Διὸς νόον εἰρύσσαιτο  
 οὐδὲ μάλ' ἵφθιμος, ἐπεὶ ἦ πολὺν φέρτερός ἐστι.”
- 145 Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα βοῇν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
 “ναὶ δὴ ταῦτά γε πάντα, γέρον, κατὰ μοῖραν ἔειπες.  
 ἀλλὰ τόδ' αἶνὸν ἄχος κραδίην καὶ θυμὸν ἱκάνει  
 Ἐκτωρ γάρ ποτε φήσει ἐνὶ Τρώεσσ' ἀγορεύων·  
 “Τυδεΐδης ὑπ' ἐμείῳ φοβεύμενος ἵκετο νῆας.”
- 150 ὥς ποτ' ἀπειλήσει· τότε μοι χάνοι εὐρεῖα χθών.”

<sup>12</sup> σιγαλόεντα: φοινικέοντα.



for his charioteer. Yet he left him to lie there, though he grieved for his comrade, and sought out a bold charioteer; nor did his two horses long lack a master, for quickly he found Iphitus' son, bold Archeptolemus, and made him mount behind his swift-footed horses, and gave the reins into his hands.

Then there would have been ruin and deeds beyond remedy would have taken place, and they would have been penned in Ilios like lambs, had not the father of men and gods been quick to notice. He thundered terribly and let fly his white lightning-bolt, and down before the horses of Diomedes he hurled it to earth; and a terrible flame arose of burning sulphur, and the two horses, seized with terror, shrank back beneath the chariot. Then from the hands of Nestor slipped the shining reins, and he was seized with terror at heart, and spoke to Diomedes: "Son of Tydeus, come now, turn back in flight your single-hoofed horses. Do you not realize that victory from Zeus does not follow you? Now to that man Zeus, the son of Cronos, gives glory for this day; later he will grant it also to us, if he is so minded. But a man will in no way thwart the purpose of Zeus, not even a very valiant one, since he is mightier far."

And in answer to him spoke Diomedes, good at the war cry: "Indeed, old man, in all this you have spoken properly. But in this dread grief comes on my heart and spirit, for Hector will one day say, as he speaks in the assembly of the Trojans: 'Tydeus' son, driven in flight before me, reached the ships.' So will he one day boast—on that day let the wide earth gape for me."

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
 “ὦ μοι, Τυδέος υἱὲ δαΐφρονος, οἶον ἔειπες.

εἷ περ γάρ σ' Ἔκτωρ γε κακὸν καὶ ἀνάλκιδα φήσει,  
 ἀλλ' οὐ πείσονται Τρῶες καὶ Δαρδανίωνες  
 155 καὶ Τρώων ἄλοχοι μεγαθύμων ἀσπιστάων,  
 τάων ἐν κονίῃσι βάλες θαλεροὺς παρακοίτας.”

ὣς ἄρα φωνήσας φύγαδε τράπε μώνυχας ἵππους  
 αὐτὶς ἀν' ἰωχμόν· ἐπὶ δὲ Τρῶές τε καὶ Ἔκτωρ  
 ἡχῇ θεσπεσίῃ βέλεα στονόοντα χέοντο.

160 τῷ δ' ἐπὶ μακρὸν ἄνσε μέγας κορυθαίολος Ἔκτωρ·  
 “Τυδεΐδη, περὶ μὲν σε τίον Δαναοὶ ταχύπωλοι  
 ἔδρη τε κρέασίν τε ἰδὲ πλείοις δεπάεσσιν·  
 νῦν δέ σ' ἀτιμήσουσιν· γυναικὸς ἄρ' ἀντὶ τέτυξο.  
 ἔρρε, κακὴ γλήνη, ἐπεὶ οὐκ εἷξαντος ἐμῆιο<sup>13</sup>

165 πύργων ἡμετέρων ἐπιβήσεται, οὐδὲ γυναῖκας  
 ἄξεις ἐν νήεσσιν· πάρος τοι δαίμονα δώσω.”<sup>14</sup>

ὣς φάτο, Τυδεΐδης δὲ διάνδιχα μερμήριξεν,  
 ἵππους τε στρέφαι καὶ ἐναντίβιον μαχέσασθαι.

170 τρὶς μὲν μερμήριξε κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμόν,  
 τρὶς δ' ἄρ' ἀπ' Ἰδαίων ὀρέων κτύπε μητίετα Ζεὺς  
 σῆμα τιθεὶς Τρῶεσσι, μάχης ἑτεραλκέα νίκην.

Ἔκτωρ δὲ Τρῶεσσιν ἐκέκλετο μακρὸν αὔσας·

“Τρῶες καὶ Λύκιοι καὶ Δάρδανοι ἀγχιμαχηταί,  
 ἀνέρες ἔστε, φίλοι, μνήσασθε δὲ θούριδος ἀλκῆς.

175 γιγνώσκω δ' ὅτι μοι πρόφρων κατένευσε Κρονίων

<sup>13</sup> Lines 164–166 were rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

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And in answer to him spoke the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: "Ah me, son of battle-minded Tydeus, what a thing you have said! For even if Hector calls you coward and weakling, yet the Trojans and the Dardanians will not be convinced, nor will the wives of the great-hearted Trojan shield bearers, they whose vigorous husbands you have hurled in the dust."

So he spoke, and turned in flight his single-hoofed horses, back through the tumult; and the Trojans and Hector with wondrous din poured on them their missiles laden with groanings. Over him then shouted aloud great Hector of the flashing helmet: "Son of Tydeus, above all others the Danaans with swift steeds used to honor you with a seat of honor and meat and full cups, but now will they scorn you; you are, it appears, no better than a woman. Begone, cowardly puppet, since not through any yielding of mine will you set foot on our walls, and carry away our women in your ships; before that I will deal you your doom."

So he spoke, and the son of Tydeus debated whether he should wheel his horses and fight him man to man. Thrice he wavered in mind and heart and thrice from the mountains of Ida Zeus the counselor thundered, giving the Trojans a sign and victory to turn the tide of battle. And Hector shouted aloud and called to the Trojans: "Trojans and Lycians and Dardanians who fight in close combat, be men, my friends, and take thought of furious valor. I recognize that the son of Cronos has readily assented to victory

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<sup>14</sup> δαίμονα δώσω: πότμον ἐφήσω Zenodotus.

νίκην καὶ μέγα κῦδος, ἀτὰρ Δαναοῖσί γε πῆμα.  
 νῆπιοι, οἳ ἄρα δὴ τάδε τείχεα μηχανόωντο  
 ἀβλήχρ' οὐδενόσσωρα· τὰ δ' οὐ μένος ἄμδν ἐρύξει.  
 ἵπποι δὲ ῥέα τάφρον ὑπερθορέονται ὀρυκτῆν.

180 ἀλλ' ὅτε κεν δὴ νηυσὶν ἔπι γλαφυρῇσι γένωμαι,  
 μνημοσύνη τις ἔπειτα πυρὸς δηίοιο γενέσθω,  
 ὥς πυρὶ νῆας ἐνιπρήσω, κτείνω δὲ καὶ αὐτοὺς  
 Ἀργείους παρὰ νηυσὶν ἀτυζομένους ὑπὸ καπνοῦ.”<sup>15</sup>

Ὡς εἰπὼν ἵπποισιν ἐκέκλετο φώνησέν τε·

185 “Ἐάνθε τε καὶ σύ, Πόδαργε, καὶ Αἴθων Λάμπε τε δῖε,<sup>16</sup>  
 νῦν μοι τὴν κομιδὴν ἀποτίνετον, ἣν μάλα πολλὴν  
 Ἀνδρομάχη θυγάτηρ μεγαλήτορος Ἡετίωνος  
 ὑμῖν παρ προτέροισι μελίφρονα πυρὸν ἔθηκεν  
 οἶνόν τ' ἐγκεράσασα πιεῖν, ὅτε θυμὸς ἀνώγοι,<sup>17</sup>  
 190 ἢ ἐμοί, ὅς πέρ οἱ θαλερὸς πόσις εὐχομαι εἶναι.  
 ἀλλ' ἐφομαρτεῖτον καὶ σπεύδετον, ὅφρα λάβωμεν  
 ἀσπίδα Νεστορέην, τῆς νῦν κλέος οὐρανὸν ἵκει  
 πᾶσαν χρυσεῖην ἔμεναι, κανόνας τε καὶ αὐτήν,  
 αὐτὰρ ἀπ' ὤμοιιν Διομήδεος ἵπποδάμοιο  
 195 δαιδάλεον θώρηκα, τὸν Ἡφαιστος κάμε τεύχων.  
 εἰ τούτῳ κε λάβοιμεν, ἐελποίμην κεν Ἀχαιοὺς  
 αὐτονηχὶ νηῶν ἐπιβησέμεν ὠκείων.”

Ὡς ἔφατ' εὐχόμενος, νεμέσθησε δὲ πότνια Ἥρη,  
 σείσατο δ' εἰνὶ θρόνῳ, ἐλέλιξε δὲ μακρὸν Ὀλυμπον,  
 200 καὶ ῥα Ποσειδάωνα μέγαν θεὸν ἀντίον ἡὔδα·  
 “ὦ πόποι, Ἐννοσίγαι' εὐρυσθενές, οὐδέ νυ σοὶ περ

<sup>15</sup> Line 183 is omitted in the best MSS.

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and great glory for me, and for the Danaans woe. The fools, who in fact contrived these walls, weak and of no account! These will not withstand our force, and our horses will easily leap over the trench they dug. But whenever it is that I come to the hollow ships, then see that consuming fire be not forgotten, so that with fire I may burn the ships and furthermore slay the men, the Argives beside their ships, panicked because of the smoke."

So saying he shouted to his horses, and said: "Xanthus, and you Podargus, and Aethon, and noble Lampus, now pay me back the provisioning of honey-hearted wheat which in abundance Andromache, daughter of great-hearted Eëtion, set before you; and mixed wine for you to drink when your hearts commanded, before she did it for me, though I claim to be her vigorous husband. But come along and hurry, so that we may take the shield of Nestor, of which the fame now reaches heaven that it is all of gold, the rods and the shield itself; and that we may take moreover from the shoulders of horse-taming Diomedes his elaborate breastplate which Hephaestus toiled over making. If we could take these two, then I might hope to make the Achaeans this very night embark on their swift ships."

So he spoke boastfully, and queenly Hera was indignant; she shuddered on her throne and made high Olympus quake, and to the mighty god Poseidon she spoke, saying: "Well, now, wide-ruling Shaker of the Earth, not even

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<sup>16</sup> Line 185 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>17</sup> Line 189 was rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

ὄλλυμένων Δαναῶν ὀλοφύρεται ἐν φρεσὶ θυμός.  
οἱ δέ τοι εἰς Ἑλίκην τε καὶ Αἰγὰς δῶρ' ἀνάγουσι  
πολλά τε καὶ χαρίεντα· σὺ δέ σφισι βούλεο νίκην.  
205 εἴ περ γάρ κ' ἐθέλοιμεν, ὅσοι Δαναοῖσιν ἄρωγοί,  
Τρῶας ἀπώσασθαι καὶ ἐρυκέμεν εὐρύοπα Ζῆν,  
αὐτοῦ κ' ἐνθ' ἀκάχοιτο καθήμενος<sup>18</sup> οἷος ἐν Ἰδῇ.”

Τὴν δὲ μέγ' ὀχθήσας προσέφη κρείων Ἐνοσίχθων·  
“Ἥρη ἀπτοεπές, ποῖον τὸν μῦθον ἔειπες.

210 οὐκ ἂν ἐγὼ γ' ἐθέλοιμι Διὶ Κρονίωνι μάχεσθαι  
ἡμέας τοὺς ἄλλους, ἐπεὶ ἡ πολὺν φέρτερός ἐστιν.”

Ὡς οἱ μὲν τοιαῦτα πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀγόρευον·  
τῶν δ', ὅσον ἐκ νηῶν ἀπο<sup>19</sup> πύργου τάφρος ἔεργε,  
πλήθην ὁμῶς ἵππων τε καὶ ἀνδρῶν ἀσπιστάων

215 εἰλομένων· εἴλει δὲ θεῶ ἀτάλαντος Ἄρηι  
Ἑκτωρ Πριαμίδης, ὅτε οἱ Ζεὺς κῦδος ἔδωκε.  
καὶ νῦ κ' ἐνέπρησεν πυρὶ κηλέῳ νῆας εἰσας,  
εἰ μὴ ἐπὶ φρεσὶ θῆκ' Ἀγαμέμνονι πότνια Ἥρη  
αὐτῷ ποιπνύσαντι θεῶς ὀτρῦναι Ἀχαιοὺς.

220 βῆ δ' ἰέναι παρά τε κλισίας καὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
πορφύρεον μέγα φᾶρος ἔχων ἐν χειρὶ παχείῃ,  
στή δ' ἐπ' Ὀδυσσῆος μεγακῆτεϊ νηὶ μελαίνῃ,  
ἣ ῥ' ἐν μεσσάτῳ ἔσκε γεγωνέμεν ἀμφοτέρωσσε,  
ἡμὲν ἐπ' Αἴαντος κλισίας Τελαμωνιάδαο<sup>20</sup>

225 ἦδ' ἐπ' Ἀχιλλῆος, τοί ῥ' ἔσχατα νῆας εἰσας  
εἵρυσαν, ἡγορέῃ πίσυνοι καὶ κάρτεϊ χειρῶν·

<sup>18</sup> ἐνθ' ἀκάχοιτο καθήμενος: ἐνθα κάθοιτ' ἀκαχήμενος  
Zenodotus.

your heart in your breast has pity for the Danaans who are perishing. Yet in your honor do they bring to Helice and Aegae offerings many and gracious and you used to wish them victory. For if we were but to be minded, all we who are aiders of the Danaans, to drive back the Trojans and to hold back Zeus whose voice resounds afar, then would he sit grieving by himself there on Ida."

Then, greatly troubled, the lord, the Shaker of Earth, spoke to her: "Hera, reckless in speech, what a word have you spoken! I would not wish to see us all at strife with Zeus, son of Cronos, since indeed he is far mightier."

Thus they spoke to one another; and now was all the space that the trench of the wall enclosed on the side of the ships filled alike with chariots and shield-bearing men penned in together: and penned in they were by Hector, Priam's son, the peer of swift Ares, now that Zeus granted him glory. And now he would have burned the shapely ships with blazing fire, had not queenly Hera put it in Agamemnon's mind himself to set about speedily rousing the Achaeans. So he set out to go along the huts and ships of the Achaeans, holding his great purple cloak in his stout hand, and stood by Odysseus' black ship, huge of hull, that was in the middle so that a shout could reach to either end, both to the huts of Aias, son of Telamon, and to those of Achilles; for these had drawn up their shapely ships at the furthestmost ends, trusting in their valor and the strength

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<sup>19</sup> ἀπὸ: καὶ Zenodotus.

<sup>20</sup> Lines 224-226 are omitted in the best MSS.

- ἦυσεν δὲ διαπρύσιον Δαναοῖσι γεγωνώς·  
 “αἰδώς, Ἀργεῖοι, κάκ’ ἐλέγχεα, εἶδος ἀγητοί·  
 πῇ ἔβαν εὐχωλαί, ὅτε δὴ φάμεν εἶναι ἄριστοι,  
 230 ἄς ὁπότ’ ἐν Δήμνῳ κενεαυχέες ἡγοράασθε,  
 ἔσθοντες κρέα πολλὰ βοῶν ὀρθοκραιράων,<sup>21</sup>  
 πίνοντες κρητῆρας ἐπιστεφέας οἴνοιο,  
 Τρώων ἄνθ’ ἑκατόν τε διηκοσίων τε ἕκαστος  
 στήσεσθ’ ἐν πολέμῳ· νῦν δ’ οὐδ’ ἐνὸς ἄξιοί εἰμεν  
 235 Ἕκτορος, ὃς τάχα νῆας ἐνιπρήσει πυρὶ κηλέῳ.<sup>22</sup>  
 Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἧ ρά τιν’ ἤδη ὑπερμενέων βασιλῆων  
 τῇδ’ ἄτῃ ἄσας καὶ μιν μέγα κῦδος ἀπηύρας;  
 οὐ μὲν δὴ ποτέ φημι τεὸν περικαλλέα βωμὸν  
 νηὶ πολυκλήιδι παρελθέμεν ἐνθάδε ἔρρων,  
 240 ἀλλ’ ἐπὶ πᾶσι βοῶν δημὸν καὶ μηρί’ ἔκηα,  
 ἰέμενος Τροίην εὐτείχεον ἐξαλαπάξαι.  
 ἀλλὰ, Ζεῦ, τόδε πέρ μοι ἐπικρήνηνον ἐέλδωρ·  
 αὐτοὺς δὴ περ ἔασον ὑπεκφυγέειν καὶ ἀλύξαι,  
 μηδ’ οὕτω Τρώεσσιν ἔα δάμνασθαι Ἀχαιοὺς.”  
 245 ὣς φάτο, τὸν δὲ πατὴρ ὀλοφύρατο δάκρυ χέοντα,  
 νεῦσε δέ οἱ λαὸν σόον ἔμμεναι οὐδ’ ἀπολέσθαι.  
 αὐτίκα δ’ αἰετὸν ἦκε, τελειότατον πετεηνῶν,  
 νεβρὸν ἔχοντ’ ὀνύχεσσι, τέκος ἐλάφοιο ταχείης·  
 παρ δὲ Διὸς βωμῷ περικαλλεῖ κάββαλε νεβρόν,  
 250 ἔνθα πανομφαίῳ Ζηνὶ ῥέζεσκον Ἀχαιοί.  
 οἱ δ’ ὥς οὖν εἶδονθ’ ὅ τ’ ἄρ’ ἐκ Διὸς ἦλυθεν ὄρνις,  
 μᾶλλον ἐπὶ Τρώεσσι θόρον, μνήσαντο δὲ χάρμης.

<sup>21</sup> Line 231 was rejected by Aristarchus.



## BOOK 8

of their hands. And he uttered a piercing shout, calling aloud to the Danaans: "Shame, Argives, base objects of reproach, fair in appearance only! Where have our boastings gone, when indeed we used to say that we were bravest, the empty boasts that you uttered when you were in Lemnos eating abundant flesh of straight-horned cattle and drinking bowls brim full of wine, saying that each man would stand to face in battle one or two hundred Trojans! But now can we match not even one, this Hector, who soon will burn our ships with blazing fire. Father Zeus, was there ever before now one among mighty kings whom you blinded with blindness like this, and robbed of great glory? Yet I can truly say that never in my benched ship did I pass by a fair altar of yours on my ill-starred way here, but on all I burned the fat and the thighs of bulls, in my eagerness to lay waste well-walled Troy. But, Zeus, this wish at least fulfill for me: ourselves at least allow to flee and escape, and do not allow the Achaeans to be vanquished by the Trojans in this way."

So he spoke, and the father had pity on him as he wept, and nodded in assent that his army should be safe and not perish. Immediately he sent an eagle, surest of omens among winged birds, holding in his talons a fawn, the young of a swift hind. Beside the beautiful altar of Zeus he let fall the fawn where the Achaeans were used to offer sacrifice to Zeus from whom all omens come. So they, when they saw that it was from Zeus that the bird had come, leapt the more eagerly on the Trojans and took thought of battle.

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<sup>22</sup> Line 235 was rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

- Ἐνθ' οὗ τις πρότερος Δαναῶν, πολλῶν περ ἑόντων,  
 εὗξατο Τυδεΐδαο πάρος σχέμεν ὠκέας ἵππους  
 255 τάφρου τ' ἐξελάσαι καὶ ἐναντίβιον μαχέσασθαι,  
 ἀλλὰ πολὺ πρῶτος Τρώων ἔλεν ἄνδρα κορυστήν,  
 Φραδμονίδην Ἀγέλαον. ὁ μὲν φύγαδ' ἔτραπεν ἵππους·  
 τῷ δὲ μεταστρεφθέντι μεταφρένῳ ἐν δόρῳ πῆξεν  
 ὦμων μεσσηγύς, διὰ δὲ στήθεσφιν ἔλασσεν·  
 260 ἥριπε δ' ἐξ ὀχέων, ἀράβησε δὲ τεύχε' ἐπ' αὐτῷ.  
 Τὸν δὲ μετ' Ἀτρεΐδαι, Ἀγαμέμνων καὶ Μενέλαος,  
 τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' Αἴαντες θοῦριν ἐπιειμένοι ἀλκῇ,  
 τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' Ἴδομενεὺς καὶ ὀπάων Ἴδομενῆος  
 Μηριόνης, ἀτάλαντος Ἐνυαλίῳ ἀνδρεϊφόντῃ,  
 265 τοῖσι δ' ἐπ' Εὐρύπυλος, Εὐαίμονος ἀγλαὸς υἱός·  
 Τεύκρος δ' εἵνατος ἦλθε, παλίντονα τόξα τιταίνων,  
 στή δ' ἄρ' ὑπ' Αἴαντος σάκεϊ Τελαμωνιάδαο.  
 ἔνθ' Αἴας μὲν ὑπεξέφερεν σάκος· αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ἥρως  
 παπτήνας, ἐπεὶ ἄρ τιν' οἰστεύσας ἐν ὀμίλῳ  
 270 βεβλήκοι, ὁ μὲν αὖθι πεσὼν ἀπὸ θυμὸν ὄλεσσεν,  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ αὖτις ἰὼν πάις ὥς ὑπὸ μητέρα δύσκειν  
 εἰς Αἴανθ'· ὁ δέ μιν σάκεϊ κρύπτασκε φαεινῷ.  
 Ἐνθα τίνα πρῶτον Τρώων ἔλε Τεύκρος ἀμύμων;  
 Ὀρσίλοχον μὲν πρῶτα καὶ Ὀρμενον ἦδ' Ὀφελέστην  
 275 Δαίτορά τε Χρομίον τε καὶ ἀντίθεον Λυκοφόντην  
 καὶ Πολυαιμονίδην Ἀμοπάονα καὶ Μελάνιππον.  
 πάντας ἐπασσυντέρους πέλασε χθονὶ πουλυβοτείρῃ.<sup>23</sup>  
 τὸν δὲ ἰδὼν γήθησεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 τόξου ἅπο κρατεροῦ Τρώων ὀλέκοντα φάλαγγας·

Then no man of the Danaans, though they were so many, could boast that he before the son of Tydeus had guided his swift horses to drive them across the trench and to fight man to man; he was first by far to slay a warrior of the Trojans in full armor, Agelaus, Phradmon's son. He had turned his horses to flee, and as he wheeled about, Diomedes fixed his spear in his back between the shoulders, and drove it through his chest; so he fell from the chariot, and over him his armor clanged.

And after him came the sons of Atreus, Agamemnon and Menelaus, and after them the two Aiantes, clothed in furious valor, and after them Idomeneus and Idomeneus' comrade, Meriones, peer of Enyalius, slayer of men, and after them Eurypylus, the glorious son of Euaemon; and Teucer came as the ninth, stretching his back-bent bow, and stood beneath the shield of Aias, son of Telamon. Then would Aias move his shield aside from over him, and the warrior would spy his chance; and when he had shot his arrow and had struck one in the throng, then would that man fall where he was and give up his life, and Teucer would go back and, as a child with its mother, take shelter with Aias; and Aias would hide him with his shining shield.

Whom first then of the Trojans did incomparable Teucer slay? Orsilochus first and Ormenus and Ophelestes and Daetor and Chromius and godlike Lycophontes and Amopaon, Polyaeon's son, and Melanippus. All these one after the other he brought down to the bounteous earth. And at sight of him Agamemnon, lord of men, rejoiced, as with his mighty bow he destroyed the battalions

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<sup>23</sup> Line 277 is omitted in most MSS.

- 280 στή δὲ παρ' αὐτὸν ἰὼν καί μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπε·  
 “Τεῦκρε, φίλη κεφαλὴ, Τελαμώνιε, κοίρανε λαῶν,  
 βάλλ' οὕτως, αἶ κέν τι φόως Δαναοῖσι γένηαι  
 πατρί τε σῶ Τελαμῶνι, ὃ σ' ἔτρεφε τυτθὸν ἑόντα,  
 καί σε νόθον περ ἑόντα κομίσσατο ᾧ ἐνὶ οἴκῳ.”<sup>24</sup>
- 285 τὸν καὶ τηλόθ' ἑόντα ἐνκλείης ἐπίβησον.  
 σοὶ δ' ἐγὼ ἐξερέω ὥς καὶ τετελεσμένον ἔσται·  
 αἶ κέν μοι δώῃ Ζεὺς τ' αἰγίοχος καὶ Ἀθήνη  
 Ἴλίου ἐξαλαπάξαι ἐνκτίμενον πτολίεθρον,  
 πρῶτῳ τοι μετ' ἐμὲ πρεσβήιον ἐν χερὶ θήσω,  
 290 ἢ τρίποδ' ἢ ἐδύω ἵππους αὐτοῖσιν ὄχεσφιν  
 ἢ γυναιῖχ',<sup>25</sup> ἢ κέν τοι ὁμὸν λέχος εἰσαναβαίνοι.”  
 Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσεφώνεε Τεῦκρος ἀμύ-  
 μων·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ κύδιστε, τί με σπεύδοντα καὶ αὐτὸν  
 ὀτρύνεις; οὐ μέν τοι ὅση δύναμις γε πάρεσσι  
 295 παύομαι, ἀλλ' ἐξ οὗ προτὶ Ἴλιον ὠσάμεθ' αὐτούς,  
 ἐκ τοῦ δὴ τόξοισι δεδεγμένος ἄνδρας ἐναίρω.  
 ὀκτὼ δὴ προέηκα τανυγλώχινας ὀιστούς,  
 πάντες δ' ἐν χροῖ πῆχθεν ἀρηιθίων αἰζηῶν·  
 τοῦτον δ' οὐ δύναμαι βαλέειν κύνα λυσσητήρα.”
- 300 Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἄλλον ὀιστὸν ἀπὸ νευρῆφιν ἵαλλεν  
 Ἔκτορος ἀντικρύ, βαλέειν δέ ἐῖετο θυμός·  
 καὶ τοῦ μέν ῥ' ἀφάμαρθ', ὃ δ' ἀμύμονα Γοργυθίωνα  
 υἱὸν ἐν Πριάμοιο κατὰ στήθος βάλεν ἰῶ,  
 τόν ῥ' ἐξ Αἰσύμηθεν ὀπυιομένη τέκε μήτηρ  
 305 καλὴ Καστιάειρα δέμας εἰκνῖα θεῇσι.  
 μήκων δ' ὥς ἐτέρωσε κάρη βάλεν, ἣ τ' ἐνὶ κήπῳ,

of the Trojans; and he came and stood by his side and spoke to him, saying: "Teucer, dear friend, son of Telamon, lord of men, shoot on in this way in the hope that you may prove a light of deliverance to the Danaans and a glory to your father Telamon, who reared you when you were a babe and, although you were a bastard, cherished you in his own house; to him, far away though he is, bring honor. Moreover, I will declare to you as it surely will come to pass. If Zeus who bears the aegis and Athene grant me to lay waste the well-built citadel of Ilios, in your hand first after my own will I place a prize of honor, either a tripod or two horses with their chariot, or a woman who will go up into your bed."

In answer to him spoke incomparable Teucer: "Most glorious son of Atreus, why do you urge me on, who am already eager? In fact I have not ceased so far as might is in me, but from the time when we drove them toward Ilios, from that moment I have been lying in wait with my bow and slaying men. Eight long-barbed arrows I have now let fly, and all are lodged in the flesh of youths swift in battle; only this mad dog I cannot strike."

He spoke, and shot another arrow from the string straight against Hector; and his heart was eager to strike him. Him he missed, but incomparable Gorgythion he struck in the chest with his arrow, Priam's mighty son, whom a wedded mother from Aesyne had borne, fair Castianeira, in form like the goddesses. And his head bowed to one side like a poppy that in a garden is heavy

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<sup>24</sup> Line 284 was rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

<sup>25</sup> γυναιχ': Ἰόπην Zenodotus.

καρπῷ βριθομένη νοτίησί τε εἰαρινῇσιν,  
ὥς ἐτέρωσ' ἤμυσε κάρη πῆληκι βαρυνθέν.

Τεύκρος δ' ἄλλον οἰστὸν ἀπὸ νευρῆφιν ἵαλλεν

- 310 Ἔκτορος ἀντικρύ, βαλέειν δέ ἐΐετο θυμός.  
ἀλλ' ὃ γε καὶ τόθ' ἄμαρτε· παρέσφηλεν γὰρ Ἀπόλλων·  
ἀλλ' Ἀρχεπτόλεμον, θρασὺν Ἔκτορος ἠνιοχῆα,  
ἰέμενον πόλεμόνδε βάλε στῆθος παρὰ μαζόν·  
ἥριπε δ' ἐξ ὀχέων, ὑπερώησαν δέ οἱ ἵπποι  
315 ὠκύποδες· τοῦ δ' αὖθι λύθη ψυχὴ τε μένος τε.  
Ἔκτορα δ' αἶνὸν ἄχος πύκασε φρένας ἠνιόχοιο·  
τὸν μὲν ἔπειτ' εἶασε καὶ ἀχνύμενός περ ἑταῖρον,  
Κεβριόνην δ' ἐκέλευσεν ἀδελφεὸν ἐγγὺς εἶοντα  
ἵππων ἠνὶ ἐλείν· ὃ δ' ἄρ' οὐκ ἀπίθησεν ἀκούσας.  
320 αὐτὸς δ' ἐκ δίφροιο χαμαὶ θόρε παμφανόωντος  
σμερδαλέα ἰάχων· ὃ δὲ χερμάδιον λάβε χειρί,  
βῆ δ' ἰθὺς Τεύκρου, βαλέειν δέ ἐθυμὸς ἀνώγει.  
ἦ τοι ὃ μὲν φαρέτρης ἐξείλετο πικρὸν οἰστόν,  
θῆκε δ' ἐπὶ νευρῇ· τὸν δ' αὖ κορυθαίολος Ἔκτωρ  
325 αὐερύοντα παρ' ὦμον, ὅθι κληὶς ἀποέργει  
αὐχένα τε στῆθός τε, μάλιστα δὲ καίριόν ἐστι,  
τῇ ῥ' ἐπὶ οἱ μεμαῶτα βάλεν λίθῳ ὀκριοέντι,  
ῥῆξε δέ οἱ νευρήν· νάρκησε δὲ χεὶρ ἐπὶ καρπῷ,  
στῆ δὲ γυνὺξ ἐριπών, τόξον δέ οἱ ἔκπεσε χειρός.  
330 Αἴας δ' οὐκ ἀμέλησε κασιγνήτοιο πεσόντος,  
ἀλλὰ θεῶν περίβη καὶ οἱ σάκος ἀμφεκάλυψε.  
τὸν μὲν ἔπειθ' ὑποδύντε δύω ἐρίηρες ἑταῖροι,  
Μηκιστεὺς Ἐχίοιο πάις καὶ δῖος Ἀλᾶστωρ,  
νῆας ἔπι γλαφυρὰς φερέτην βαρέα στενάχοντα.

## BOOK 8

with its fruit and the rains of spring; so his head bowed to one side, weighed down by his helmet.

And Teucer shot another arrow from the string straight against Hector, and his heart was eager to strike him. But he missed him once again, for Apollo made his arrow swerve, but Archeptolemus, the bold charioteer of Hector, as he hurried into battle he struck on the chest beside the nipple. So he fell from the chariot, and the swift-footed horses swerved aside; and there his spirit and his strength were loosed. Then was the mind of Hector clouded with dread sorrow for his charioteer. Yet he left him to lie there, though he grieved for his comrade, and told Cebriones, his brother, who was near at hand, to take the reins of the horses; and he heard and failed not to obey. And he himself leapt to the ground from his gleaming chariot crying a terrible cry, and seizing a stone in his hand went straight at Teucer, and his heart commanded him to strike him. Now Teucer had drawn from his quiver a bitter arrow, and laid it on the string, but just as he was drawing it back Hector of the flashing helmet struck him beside the shoulder where the collarbone parts the neck and the chest, where is the deadliest spot; it was there as he aimed eagerly at him that he struck him with the jagged stone, and he broke the bow-string; and his hand grew numb at the wrist, and he fell on his knees and remained there, and the bow fell from his hand. But Aias was not unmindful of his brother's fall, but ran up and stood over him and covered him with his shield. Then two trusty comrades stooped beneath him, Mecisteus, son of Echius, and noble Alastor, and carried him, groaning heavily, to the hollow ships.

- 335 Ἄψ δ' αὖτις Τρώεσσιν Ὀλύμπιος ἐν μένος ὤρσεν·  
 οἱ δ' ἰθὺς τάφροιο βαθείης ὦσαν Ἀχαιοὺς·  
 Ἔκτωρ δ' ἐν πρώτοισι κίε σθένει βλεμεαίνων.  
 ὥς δ' ὅτε τίς τε κύων συνὸς ἀγρίου ἢ λέοντος  
 ἄπτηται κατόπισθε, ποσὶν ταχέεσσι διώκων,<sup>26</sup>  
 340 ἰσχία τε γλουτούς τε, ἐλίσσόμενόν τε δοκεύει,  
 ὥς Ἔκτωρ ὥπαζε κάρη κομόωντας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 αἰὲν ἀποκτείνων τὸν ὀπίστατον· οἱ δὲ φέβοντο.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ διὰ τε σκόλοπας καὶ τάφρον ἔβησαν  
 φεύγοντες, πολλοὶ δὲ δάμεν Τρώων ὑπὸ χερσίν,  
 345 οἱ μὲν δὴ παρὰ νηυσὶν ἐρητύοντο μένοντες,  
 ἀλλήλοισι τε κεκλόμενοι καὶ πᾶσι θεοῖσι  
 χεῖρας ἀνίσχοντες μεγάλ' εὐχετόωντο ἕκαστος·  
 Ἔκτωρ δ' ἀμφιπεριστρώφα καλλίτριχας ἵππους,  
 Γοργοῦς ὄμματ'<sup>27</sup> ἔχων ἠδὲ βροτολοιγοῦ Ἴαρος.  
 350 Τοὺς δὲ ἰδοῦσ' ἐλέησε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη,  
 αἶψα δ' Ἀθηναίην ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “ὦ πόποι, αἰγιόχοιο Διὸς τέκος, οὐκέτι νῶϊ  
 ὀλλυμένων Δαναῶν κεκαδησόμεθ' ὑστάτιόν περ;  
 οἳ κεν δὴ κακὸν οἶτον ἀναπλήσαντες ὄλωνται  
 355 ἀνδρὸς ἐνὸς ῥιπῇ, ὃ δὲ μαίνεται οὐκέτ' ἀνεκτῶς  
 Ἔκτωρ Πριαμίδης, καὶ δὴ κακὰ πολλὰ ἔοργε.”  
 Τὴν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε θεὰ γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·  
 “καὶ λῆν οὗτός γε μένος θυμόν τ' ὀλέσειε,  
 χερσὶν ὑπ' Ἀργείων φθίμενος ἐν πατρίδι γαίῃ·  
 360 ἀλλὰ πατὴρ οὐμὸς φρεσὶ μαίνεται οὐκ ἀγαθῇσι,  
 σχέτλιος, αἰὲν ἀλιτρός, ἐμῶν μενέων ἀπερωεύς.



## BOOK 8

Then once again the Olympian aroused force in the hearts of the Trojans; and they thrust the Achaeans straight toward the deep trench; and among the foremost went Hector exulting in his strength. And just as a hound pursues with swift feet after a wild boar or a lion, and snaps at him from behind at either flank or buttock, and watches for him as he wheels; so Hector pressed on the long-haired Achaeans, ever slaying the hindmost; and they were driven in rout. But when in their flight they had passed through stakes and trench, and many had been vanquished at the hands of the Trojans, then beside their ships they halted and stayed, calling to one another, and lifting up their hands to all the gods they made fervent prayer, each man of them. But Hector wheeled this way and that his fair-maned horses, and his eyes were like the eyes of the Gorgon or Ares, bane of mortals.

Now at sight of them the goddess, white-armed Hera, had pity; and immediately spoke winged words to Athene: "Well now, child of Zeus who bears the aegis, shall we two not take thought any longer of the Danaans who are perishing, even for this last time? Now will they fill up the measure of evil doom and perish before the attack of one single man, Hector, Priam's son, who now rages past all bearing, and has indeed accomplished much harm."

Then spoke to her the goddess, flashing-eyed Athene: "I very much wish that this fellow would lose force and heart, slain at the hands of the Argives in his own native land; but that father of mine rages with evil mind, hard as he is, ever perverse, a thwarter of my desires; nor

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<sup>26</sup> δῶκων: πεποιθώς.

<sup>27</sup> ὄμματ': οἴματ' Aristarchus.

- οὐδέ τι τῶν μέμνηται, ὃ οἱ μάλα πολλάκις νῖον  
 τειρόμενον σώεσκον ὑπ' Εὐρυσθήος ἀέθλων.  
 ἦ τοι ὃ μὲν κλαίεσκε πρὸς οὐρανόν, αὐτὰρ ἐμὲ Ζεὺς  
 365 τῷ ἐπαλεξήσουσαν ἀπ' οὐρανόθεν προΐαλλεν.  
 εἰ γὰρ ἐγὼ τάδε ἦδε' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ πευκαλίμησιν,  
 εὐτέ μιν εἰς Ἀίδαο πυλάρταο προὔπεμψεν  
 ἐξ Ἑρέβους ἄξοντα κύνα στυγεροῦ Ἀίδαο,  
 οὐκ ἂν ὑπεξέφυγε Στυγὸς ὕδατος αἰπὰ ρέεθρα.  
 370 νῦν δ' ἐμὲ μὲν στυγέει, Θέτιδος δ' ἐξήνυσε βουλὰς,  
 ἣ οἱ γούνατ' ἔκυσσε καὶ ἔλλαβε χειρὶ γενείου,<sup>28</sup>  
 λισσομένη τιμῆσαι Ἀχιλλῆα πολίπορθον.  
 ἔσται μὰν ὅτ' ἂν αὖτε φίλην γλαυκώπιδα εἴπη.  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ μὲν νῦν νῶϊν ἐπέντυε μώνυχας ἵππους,  
 375 ὅφρ' ἂν ἐγὼ καταδῦσα Διὸς δόμον αἰγιόχοιο  
 τεύχεσιν ἐς πόλεμον θωρήξομαι, ὅφρα ἴδωμαι  
 ἢ νῶϊ Πριάμοιο πάϊς κορυθαίολος Ἑκτωρ  
 γηθήσει προφανέντε ἀνὰ πτολέμοιο γεφύρας.  
 ἦ τις καὶ Τρώων κορέει κύνας ἦδ' οἰωνοὺς  
 380 δημῷ καὶ σάρκεσσι, πεσὼν ἐπὶ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.”  
 ὣς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθησε θεὰ λευκώλενος Ἥρη.  
 ἣ μὲν ἐποιχομένη χρυσάμπυκας ἔντυεν ἵππους  
 Ἥρη, πρέσβα θεά, θυγάτηρ μέγαλοιο Κρόνιοι·<sup>29</sup>  
 αὐτὰρ Ἀθηναίη κούρη Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο  
 385 πέπλον μὲν κατέχευεν ἑανὸν πατρὸς ἐπ' οὔδει<sup>30</sup>  
 ποικίλον, ὃν ῥ' αὐτὴ ποιήσατο καὶ κάμε χερσίν,  
 ἣ δὲ χιτῶν' ἐνδύσα Διὸς νεφεληγερέταο

has he any memory of this, that very often I saved his son when he was worn down beneath Eurystheus' tasks. In fact he would make lament toward heaven and from heaven would Zeus send me to help him. Had I but known all this in the wisdom of my heart when Eurystheus sent him down to the house of Hades the fastener of the gate, to bring out of Erebus the hound of loathed Hades, then he would not have escaped the steep waters of Styx. But now Zeus slights me, and has brought to fulfillment the plans of Thetis, who kissed his knees and with her hand clasped his chin, begging him to show honor to Achilles, sacker of cities. Surely the day will come when he will again call me his flashing-eyed darling. But now make ready for us our single-hoofed horses, while I enter into the house of Zeus who bears the aegis and array myself in armor for war, so that I may see whether Priam's son, Hector of the flashing helmet, will rejoice when we two appear to view along the lines of battle. Many a one of the Trojans will surely glut the dogs and birds with his fat and flesh, when he has fallen at the ships of the Achaeans."

So she spoke, and the goddess, white-armed Hera, failed not to obey. She then went about harnessing the horses of golden frontlets, Hera, the honored goddess, daughter of great Cronos; but Athene, daughter of Zeus who bears the aegis, let fall on her father's floor her soft robe, richly embroidered, that she herself had made and her hands had fashioned, and put on the tunic of Zeus the

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<sup>28</sup> Lines 371 f. were rejected by Zenodotus and Aristarchus.

<sup>29</sup> Line 383 is omitted in some MSS.

<sup>30</sup> Lines 385–387 were rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

- τεύχεσιν ἐς πόλεμον θωρήσσετο δακρυόεντα.  
 ἐς δ' ὄχρα φλόγεα ποσὶ βήσετο, λάζετο δ' ἔγχος  
 390 βριθὺ μέγα στιβαρόν, τῷ δάμνησι στίχας ἀνδρῶν<sup>31</sup>  
 ἡρώων, τοῖσιν τε κοτέσσεται ὀβριμοπάτρη.  
 Ἦρη δὲ μάστιγι θοῶς ἐπεμαίετ' ἄρ' ἵππους·  
 αὐτόμαται δὲ πύλαι μύκον οὐρανοῦ, ἃς ἔχον ὦραι,  
 τῆς ἐπιτέτραπται μέγας οὐρανὸς Οὐλύμπός τε,  
 395 ἡμὲν ἀνακλῖναι πυκινὸν νέφος ἡδ' ἐπιθεῖναι.  
 τῇ ῥά δι' αὐτῶν κεντρηκεῖας ἔχον ἵππους.  
 Ζεὺς δὲ πατὴρ Ἰδῆθεν ἐπεὶ ἴδε χῶσατ' ἄρ' αἰνῶς,  
 Ἴριν δ' ὠτρυνε χρυσόπτερον ἀγγελέουσαν·  
 “βάσκ' ἴθι, Ἴρι ταχεῖα, πάλιν τρέπε μηδ' ἔα ἄντην  
 400 ἔρχεσθ'· οὐ γὰρ καλὰ συνοισόμεθα πτόλεμόνδε.  
 ὦδε γὰρ ἐξερέω, τὸ δὲ καὶ τετελεσμένον ἔσται·  
 γυιώσω μὲν σφωιν ὑφ' ἄρμασιν ὠκέας ἵππους,  
 αὐτὰς δ' ἐκ δίφρου βαλέω κατὰ θ' ἄρματα ἄξω·  
 οὐδέ κεν ἐς δεκάτους περιτελλομένους ἐνιαυτοὺς  
 405 ἔλκε' ἀπαλθήσεσθον, ἃ κεν μάρπτησι κεραυνός·  
 ὄφρα ἰδῇ γλαυκῶπις ὅτ' ἂν ᾧ πατρὶ μάχεται.  
 Ἦρη δ' οὐ τι τόσον νεμεσίζομαι οὐδὲ χολοῦμαι·  
 αἰεὶ γάρ μοι ἔωθεν ἐνικλᾶν ὅττι κεν εἴπω.”<sup>32</sup>  
 “Ὡς ἔφατ', ὦρτο δὲ Ἴρις ἀελλόπος ἀγγελέουσα,  
 410 βῆ δ' ἐξ Ἰδαίων ὀρέων ἐς μακρὸν Ὀλύμπον.<sup>33</sup>  
 πρώτησιν δὲ πύλῃσι πολυπτύχου Οὐλύμποιο  
 ἀντομένη κατέρυκε, Διὸς δέ σφ' ἔννεπε μῦθον·

<sup>31</sup> Lines 390 f. (= 5. 746 f.) were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>32</sup> κεν εἴπω Aristarchus: νοήσω (cf. 422).

cloud-gatherer, and arrayed herself in armor for tearful war. Then she stepped into the fiery chariot and grasped her spear, heavy and huge and strong, with which she vanquishes the ranks of men—warriors with whom the daughter of the mighty sire is angry. And Hera swiftly touched the horses with the whip, and of themselves groaned on their hinges the gates of heaven, which the Hours had in their keeping, to whom are entrusted great heaven and Olympus, whether to throw open the thick cloud or shut it. There through the gates they drove their horses patient of the goad.

But when father Zeus saw them from Ida, he grew dreadfully angry, and sent golden-winged Iris to carry a message: "Up, go, swift Iris; turn them back and do not allow them to come face to face with me, for it will be no good thing if we join in combat. For thus will I speak and surely this thing will come to pass. I will maim their swift horses beneath the chariot, and themselves will I hurl from the chariot, and will break the chariot in pieces; nor in the space of ten circling years will they be healed of the wounds which the thunderbolt inflicts; so that she of the flashing eyes may know what it is to fight against her own father. But against Hera I have not such great indignation or wrath, since she is always in the habit of thwarting me in whatever I have decreed."

So he spoke, and storm-footed Iris hurried to carry his message, and went out from the mountains of Ida to high Olympus. And at the first gates of many-folded Olympus she met them and stopped them, and declared to them the

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<sup>33</sup> Line 410 is omitted in some MSS.

“πῇ μέματον; τί σφῶιν ἐνὶ φρεσὶ μαίνεται ἦτορ;  
οὐκ ἑὰ Κρονίδης ἐπαμυνέμεν Ἀργείοισιν.

- 415 ὦδε γὰρ ἠπείλησε Κρόνου πάις, ἥ τελέει περ,  
γυιώσειν μὲν σφῶιν ὑφ’ ἄρμασιν ὠκέας ἵππους,  
αὐτὰς δ’ ἐκ δίφρου βαλέειν κατὰ θ’ ἄρματα ἄξιν·  
οὐδέ κεν ἐς δεκάτους περιτελλομένους ἐνιαυτοὺς  
ἔλκε’ ἀπαλθήσεσθον, ἃ κεν μάρπτῃσι κεραυνός·  
420 ὄφρα ἰδῆς, γλαυκῶπι, ὅτ’ ἂν σῶ πατρὶ μάχῃαι.<sup>34</sup>  
Ἥρη δ’ οὐ τι τόσον νεμεσίζεται οὐδὲ χολοῦται·  
αἰεὶ γάρ οἱ ἔωθεν ἐνικλᾶν ὅττι κεν εἴπῃ.<sup>35</sup>  
ἀλλὰ σύ γ’ αἰνοτάτῃ, κύον ἀδεές, εἰ ἐτεόν γε  
τολμήσεις Διὸς ἅντα πελώριον ἔγχος ἀεῖραι.”

- 425 Ἡ μὲν ἄρ’ ὥς εἰποῦσ’ ἀπέβη πόδας ὠκέα Ἴρις,  
αὐτὰρ Ἀθηναίην Ἥρη πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·  
“ὦ πόποι, αἰγινόχοιο Διὸς τέκος, οὐκέτ’ ἐγὼ γε  
νῶι ἐῷ Διὸς ἅντα βροτῶν ἔνεκα πτολεμίζειν·  
τῶν ἄλλος μὲν ἀποφθίσθω, ἄλλος δὲ βιώτῳ,  
430 ὅς κε τύχῃ· κείνος δὲ τὰ ἃ φρονέων ἐνὶ θυμῷ  
Τρωσὶ τε καὶ Δαναοῖσι δικαζέτω, ὥς ἐπιεικές.”

- Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσασα πάλιν τρέπε μώνυχας ἵππους·  
τῇσιν δ’ ὦραι μὲν λῦσαν καλλίτριχας ἵππους,  
καὶ τοὺς μὲν κατέδησαν ἐπ’ ἀμβροσίῃσι κάπησιν,  
435 ἄρματα δ’ ἐκλιναν πρὸς ἐνώπια παμφανόωντα·  
αὐταὶ δὲ χρυσέοισιν ἐπὶ κλισμοῖσι καθίζον  
μίγδ’ ἄλλοισι θεοῖσι, φίλον τετιημέναι ἦτορ.

Zeὺς δὲ πατὴρ Ἰδῆθεν εὐτροχον ἄρμα καὶ ἵππους

<sup>34</sup> Lines 420–424 were rejected by Aristarchus.

words of Zeus: "Where are you two hurrying? Why is it that the hearts are mad within your breasts? The son of Cronos does not allow you to give aid to the Argives. For thus the child of Cronos threatens, just as he will bring it to pass: he will maim your swift horses beneath your chariot, and yourselves will he hurl from the chariot, and will break the chariot in pieces; nor in the space of ten circling years will you be healed of the wounds which the thunderbolt inflicts; so that you may know, you of the flashing eyes, what it is to fight against your own father. But against Hera he has not such great indignation or wrath, since she is always in the habit of thwarting him in whatever he has decreed. But most dreadful are you, bold and shameless one, if you truly dare raise your huge spear against Zeus."

So spoke the goddess swift-footed Iris and went away; but Hera spoke to Athene, saying: "Well now, child of Zeus who bears the aegis! No longer do I approve the two of us waging war against Zeus for mortals' sake. Of them let one perish and another live, just as it may happen; and as for him, let him take his own counsel in his heart and judge between Trojans and Danaans, as is proper."

So she spoke, and turned back her single-hoofed horses. Then the Hours unyoked for them their fair-maned horses, and tethered them at their ambrosial man-gers, and leaned the chariot against the bright entrance wall; and the goddesses sat down on golden thrones among the other gods, troubled at heart.

But father Zeus drove from Ida his well-wheeled char-

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<sup>35</sup> *κεν εἶπη: νοήσῃ* (cf. 408).

Οὐλυμπόνδε δίωκε, θεῶν δ' ἐξίκετο θώκους.

- 440 τῷ δὲ καὶ ἵππους μὲν λῦσε κλυτὸς Ἐννοσίγαιος,  
 ἄρματα δ' ἅμ βωμοῖσι τίθει, κατὰ λίτα πετάσσας·  
 αὐτὸς δὲ χρύσειον ἐπὶ θρόνον εὐρύοπα Ζεὺς  
 ἔζετο, τῷ δ' ὑπὸ ποσσὶ μέγας πελεμίζειτ' Ὀλυμπος.  
 αἱ δ' οἶαι Διὸς ἀμφὶς Ἀθηναίη τε καὶ Ἥρη  
 445 ἦσθην, οὐδέ τί μιν προσεφώνεον οὐδ' ἐρέοντο·  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ ἔγνω ἦσιν ἐνὶ φρεσὶ φώνησέν τε·  
 “τίφθ' οὕτω τετίησθον, Ἀθηναίη τε καὶ Ἥρη;  
 οὐ μὲν θην κάμετόν γε μάχῃ ἐνὶ κυδιανείρῃ  
 ὀλλῦσαι Τρῶας, τοῖσιν<sup>36</sup> κότον αἰνὸν ἔθεσθε.  
 450 πάντως, οἶον ἐμόν γε μένος καὶ χεῖρες ἄαπτοι,  
 οὐκ ἄν με τρέψειαν ὅσοι θεοὶ εἰς' ἐν Ὀλύμπῳ.  
 σφῶιν δὲ πρὶν περ τρόμος ἔλλαβε φαίδιμα γυνῆα,  
 πρὶν πόλεμόν τε ἰδεῖν πολέμοιό τε μέρμερα ἔργα.  
 ᾧδε γὰρ ἐξερέω, τὸ δέ κεν τετελεσμένον ᾗεν·  
 455 οὐκ ἄν ἐφ' ὑμετέρων ὀχέων πληγέντε κεραυνῷ  
 ἄψ ἔς Ὀλυμπον ἵκεσθον, ἵν' ἀθανάτων ἔδος ἐστίν.”  
 Ὡς ἔφαθ', αἱ δ' ἐπέμυξαν Ἀθηναίη τε καὶ Ἥρη·  
 πλησῖαι αἶ γ' ἦσθην, κακὰ δὲ Τρώεσσι μεδέσθην.<sup>37</sup>  
 ἦ τοι Ἀθηναίη ἀκέων ᾗν οὐδέ τι εἶπε,  
 460 σκυζομένη Διὶ πατρί, χόλος δέ μιν ἄγριος ἥρει·  
 Ἥρη δ' οὐκ ἔχαδε στηῆθος χόλον, ἀλλὰ προσηύδα·  
 “αἰνότατε Κρονίδη, ποῖον τὸν μῦθον ἔειπες.  
 εὖ νυ καὶ ἡμεῖς ἴδμεν ὅ τοι σθένος οὐκ ἀλαπαδνόν.<sup>38</sup>  
 ἀλλ' ἔμπης Δαναῶν ὀλοφυρόμεθ' αἰχμητῶν,

<sup>36</sup> τοῖσιν: τοῖον Aristarchus.



iot and his horses to Olympus, and came to the session of the gods. And for him the famed Shaker of Earth both unyoked his horses and set the chariot on a stand, and spread over it a cloth; and Zeus himself, whose voice resounds afar, sat on his throne of gold, and beneath his feet great Olympus quaked. Only Athene and Hera sat apart from Zeus, and spoke no word to him or questioned him. But he knew in his mind and spoke, saying: "Why are you troubled in this way, Athene and Hera? You two surely cannot have grown weary with destroying the Trojans in battle, in which men win glory, since you cherish against them dreadful resentment! Come what will, such is my force and so irresistible my hands that all the gods who are in Olympus could not turn me; and as for you two, trembling seized your glorious limbs even before you had sight of war and the grim deeds of war. For thus will I speak, and surely this thing would have come to pass: not on your chariot, once you were struck by the thunderbolt, would you have come back to Olympus, where is the abode of the immortals."

So he spoke, and they muttered, Athene and Hera, who were sitting side by side and planning ills for the Trojans. Athene to be sure held her peace and said nothing, furious though she was at father Zeus, and fierce anger had hold of her; but Hera's breast contained not her anger, but she spoke to him, saying: "Most dread son of Cronos, what a word you have said. We, too, of course know that yours is no weakling strength; yet even so we have pity for the

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<sup>37</sup> Line 458 is omitted in some MSS.

<sup>38</sup> ἀλαπαδνόν: ἐπιεικτόν.

465 οἳ κεν δὴ κακὸν οἶτον ἀναπλήσαντες ὄλονται.  
ἀλλ' ἦ τοι πολέμου μὲν ἀφεξόμεθ', εἰ σὺ κελεύεις.<sup>39</sup>  
βουλὴν δ' Ἀργείοις ὑποθησόμεθ', ἣ τις ὀνήσει,  
ὥς μὴ πάντες ὄλονται ὀδυσσαμένοιο τεοῖο."

Τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη νεφεληγερέτα  
Ζεὺς·

470 "ἦοὺς δὴ καὶ μᾶλλον ὑπερμενέα Κρονίωνα  
ὄψεαι, αἳ κ' ἐθέλησθα, βοῶπις πότνια Ἥρη,  
ὀλλύντ' Ἀργείων πουλὺν στρατὸν αἰχμητῶν·  
οὐ γὰρ πρὶν πολέμου ἀποπαύσεται ὄβριμος Ἔκτωρ,  
πρὶν ὄρθαι παρὰ ναῦφι ποδώκεα Πηλεΐωνα,  
475 ἥματι τῷ ὅτ' ἂν οἱ μὲν ἐπὶ πρύμνησι μάχωνται<sup>40</sup>  
στείνει ἐν αἰνοτάτῳ περὶ Πατρόκλοιο θανόντος,  
ὥς γὰρ θέσφατόν ἐστι. σέθεν δ' ἐγὼ οὐκ ἀλεγίζω  
χωμένης, οὐδ' εἴ κε τὰ νείατα πείραθ' ἴκηαι  
γαίης καὶ πόντοιο, ἔν' Ἰάπετός τε Κρόνος τε  
480 ἤμενοι οὐτ' ἀνγῆς Ὑπερίονος Ἡελίοιο  
τέρποντ' οὐτ' ἀνέμοισι, βαθὺς δέ τε Τάρταρος ἀμφίς.  
οὐδ' ἦν ἔνθ' ἀφίκηαι ἀλωμένη, οὐ σευ ἐγὼ γε  
σκυζομένης ἀλέγω, ἐπεὶ οὐ σέο κύντερον ἄλλο."

ὣς φάτο, τὸν δ' οὐ τι προσέφη λευκώλενος Ἥρη.

485 ἔν δ' ἔπεσ' Ὠκεανῷ λαμπρὸν φάος ἠελίοιο,  
ἔλκον νύκτα μέλαιναν ἐπὶ ζεῖδωρον ἄρουραν.  
Τρωσὶν μὲν ῥ' ἀέκουσιν ἔδν φάος, αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιοῖς  
ἀσπασίῃ τρίλλιστος ἐπήλυθε νύξ ἐρεβεννή.

Τρώων αὖτ' ἀγορὴν ποιήσατο φαίδιμος Ἔκτωρ,

<sup>39</sup> Lines 466–468 are omitted in most MSS.

Danaan spearmen who now will perish and fulfill an evil fate. Yet certainly will we refrain from battle, if you tell us to; but counsel we will offer to the Argives which will benefit them, so that they may not all perish because of your wrath."

In answer spoke to her Zeus the cloud-gatherer: "At dawn will you see, if you wish, ox-eyed queenly Hera, the most mighty son of Cronos wreaking more destruction on the great army of Argive spearmen; for mighty Hector will not refrain from battle until the swift-footed son of Peleus has been stirred to action beside his ships on the day when at the sterns of the ships they will be fighting in most dreadful straits over the dead Patroclus; for so it is ordained. Nor do I trouble myself about your anger, not even if you should go to the nethermost bounds of earth and sea, where Iapetus and Cronos sit and have joy neither in the rays of Helios Hyperion nor in any breeze, but deep Tartarus is round about them. Though you should reach even there in your wanderings, yet I do not trouble myself about your fury, since there is nothing more shameless than you."

So said he; but white-armed Hera spoke no word in answer. Then into Oceanus fell the bright light of the sun drawing black night over the face of the earth, the giver of grain. Much against the will of the Trojans sank the daylight, but over the Achaeans welcome and thrice-prayed-for came the darkness of night.

Then did glorious Hector make an assembly of the Tro-

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<sup>40</sup> Lines 475 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

- 490 νόσφι νεῶν ἀγαγὼν ποταμῷ ἐπι δινήεντι,  
 ἐν καθαρῷ, ὅθι δὴ νεκύων διεφαίνετο χῶρος.  
 ἐξ ἵππων δ' ἀποβάντες ἐπὶ χθόνα μῦθον ἄκουον,  
 τόν ρ' Ἑκτωρ ἀγόρευε δίφιλος· ἐν δ' ἄρα χειρὶ<sup>41</sup>  
 ἔγχος ἔχ' ἐνδεκάπηχυν· πάροιθε δὲ λάμπετο δουρὸς  
 495 αἰχμὴ χαλκείη, περὶ δὲ χρύσεος θέε πόρκης.  
 τῷ ὃ γ' ἐρείσάμενος ἔπεα Τρώεσσι<sup>42</sup> μετηύδα·  
 “κέκλυτέ μεν, Τρῶες καὶ Δάρδανοι ἡδ' ἐπίκουροι·  
 νῦν ἐφάμην νῆας τ' ὀλέσας καὶ πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 ἅψ' ἀπονοστήσειν προτὶ Ἴλιον ἡνεμόεσσαν·  
 500 ἀλλὰ πρὶν κνέφας ἦλθε, τὸ νῦν ἐσάωσε μάλιστα  
 Ἀργείους καὶ νῆας ἐπὶ ῥηγμῖνι θαλάσσης.<sup>43</sup>  
 ἀλλ' ἦ τοι νῦν μὲν πειθώμεθα νυκτὶ μελαίνῃ  
 δόρπα τ' ἐφοπλισόμεσθα· ἀτὰρ καλλίτριχας ἵππους  
 λύσαθ' ὑπὲξ ὀχέων, παρὰ δέ σφισι βάλλετ' ἐδωδὴν·  
 505 ἐκ πόλιος δ' ἄξεσθε βόας καὶ ἵφια μῆλα  
 καρπαλίμως, οἶνον δὲ μελίφρονα οἰνίζεσθε  
 σῖτόν τ' ἐκ μεγάρων, ἐπὶ δὲ ξύλα πολλὰ λέγεσθε,  
 ὥς κεν παννύχιοι μέσφ' ἡοῦς ἡριγενείης  
 καίωμεν πυρὰ πολλὰ, σέλας δ' εἰς οὐρανὸν ἵκη,  
 510 μὴ πως καὶ διὰ νύκτα κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ  
 φεύγειν ὀρμήσωνται ἐπ' εὐρέα νῶτα θαλάσσης.  
 μὴ μὰν ἀσπουδί γε νεῶν ἐπιβαῖεν ἔκκηλοι,  
 ἀλλ' ὥς τις τούτων γε βέλος καὶ οἴκοθι πέσση,  
 βλῆμενος ἢ ἰῶ ἢ ἔγχει ὀξυόεντι  
 515 νηὸς ἐπιθρώσκων, ἵνα τις στυγέῃσι καὶ ἄλλος  
 Τρωσὶν ἐφ' ἵπποδάμοισι φέρειν πολύδακρυν Ἄρηα.

jans, leading them away from the ships beside the eddying river, in an open space where the ground showed clear of dead. Down from their chariots they stepped to the ground, to hear the words that Hector dear to Zeus spoke among them. In his hand he held a spear of eleven cubits, and before him blazed the spear-point of bronze, around which ran a ring of gold. Leaning on this he addressed the Trojans: "Hear me, Trojans and Dardanians and allies: now I thought to destroy the ships and all the Achaeans, and so return back again to windy Ilios; but darkness came on before that might be, which above all else has now saved the Argives and their ships on the shore of the sea. But for now let us yield to black night and make ready our meal; loose from the chariots your fair-maned horses, and cast fodder before them; and from the city bring oxen and noble sheep quickly, and provide honey-hearted wine and bread from your houses, and furthermore gather abundant wood, so that all night long until early dawn we may burn many fires, and their gleam may reach to heaven, lest perhaps even by night the long-haired Achaeans make haste to take flight over the broad back of the sea. By no means without a struggle let them board their ships at their ease; but see that many a one of them has a missile to brood over even at home, struck with either an arrow or a sharp-pointed spear as he leapt on to his ship, so that others may shrink from bringing tearful war against the horse-taming

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<sup>41</sup> Lines 493–496 were omitted by Zenodotus.

<sup>42</sup> Τρώεσσι: πτερόεντα.

<sup>43</sup> ἐπὶ ῥήγμινι θαλάσσης: ἐπεὶ Διὸς ἐτράπετο φρήν  
Zenodotus.

- κῆρυκες δ' ἀνὰ ἄστυ δίφιλοι ἀγγελλόντων  
παῖδας πρωθήβας πολιοκροτάφους τε γέροντας  
λέξασθαι περὶ ἄστυ θεοδμήτων ἐπὶ πύργων·  
520 θηλύτεραι δὲ γυναῖκες ἐνὶ μεγάροισιν ἐκάστη  
πῦρ μέγα καιόντων· φυλακὴ δέ τις ἔμπεδος ἔστω,  
μὴ λόχος εἰσέλθῃσι πόλιν λαῶν ἀπεόντων.  
ὦδ' ἔστω, Τρῶες μεγαλήτορες, ὥς ἀγορεύω·  
μῦθος δ' ὃς μὲν νῦν ὑγιῆς εἰρημένος ἔστω,<sup>44</sup>  
525 τὸν δ' ἡοῦς Τρώεσσι μεθ' ἵπποδάμοις ἀγορεύσω.  
εὐχομαι ἐλπόμενος<sup>45</sup> Δίι τ' ἄλλοισιν τε θεοῖσιν  
ἐξελάαν ἐνθένδε κύνας κηρεσσιφορήτους,  
οὓς κῆρες φορέουσι μελαινάων ἐπὶ νηῶν.<sup>46</sup>  
ἀλλ' ἦ τοι ἐπὶ νυκτὶ φυλάξομεν ἡμέας αὐτούς,  
530 πρῶι δ' ὑπηοῖοι σὺν τεύχεσι θωρηχθέντες  
νηυσὶν ἔπι γλαφυρῇσιν ἐγείρομεν ὄξυν Ἄρηα.  
εἵσομαι εἰ κέ μ' ὁ Τυδεΐδης κρατερὸς Διομήδης  
παρ νηῶν πρὸς τεῖχος ἀπώσεται, ἢ κεν ἐγὼ τὸν  
χαλκῷ δηώσας ἔναρα βροτόεντα φέρωμαι.  
535 αὔριον ἦν ἀρετὴν διαείσεται, εἴ κ' ἐμὸν ἔγχος<sup>47</sup>  
μείνῃ ἐπερχόμενον· ἀλλ' ἐν πρώτοισιν, οἶω,  
κείσεται οὐτηθεῖς, πολέες δ' ἀμφ' αὐτὸν ἐταῖροι,  
ἡελίου ἀνιόντος ἐς αὔριον. εἰ γὰρ ἐγὼν ὥς  
εἶην ἀθάνατος καὶ ἀγήραος ἥματα πάντα,  
540 τιοίμην δ' ὥς τίειτ' Ἀθηναίη καὶ Ἀπόλλων,<sup>48</sup>  
ὥς νῦν ἡμέρη ἥδε κακὸν φέρει Ἀργείοισιν.”  
“Ὡς Ἔκτωρ ἀγόρευ', ἐπὶ δὲ Τρῶες κελάδησαν.

<sup>44</sup> Lines 524 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

Trojans. And let heralds, dear to Zeus, make proclamation throughout the city that stripling boys and old men of gray temples are to gather round the city on the battlement built by the gods; and for the women, let them build each one a great fire in her halls; and let a firm watch be kept, lest an ambush enter the city while the army is away. So be it, great-hearted Trojans, just as I proclaim; of counsel, good and sound for now, let this be enough; but more will I proclaim at dawn among the horse-taming Trojans. I pray in high hope to Zeus and the other gods to drive out from here these dogs borne by the fates, whom the fates brought on their black ships. But for the night will we protect ourselves, but in the morning at the coming of dawn arrayed in our armor let us rouse sharp battle at the hollow ships. I will know whether the son of Tydeus, mighty Diomedes, will thrust me back from the ships to the wall, or whether I will slay him with the bronze and carry off his blood-stained spoils. Tomorrow he will come to know his valor, whether he can face the approach of my spear. But among the foremost, I think, he will lie struck with a spear thrust, and around him many of his comrades, at the rising of tomorrow's sun. For my part I would wish that I might be immortal and ageless all my days, and that I were honored just as are Athene and Apollo, as surely as now this day brings evil on the Argives."

So Hector addressed their assembly, and the Trojans

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<sup>45</sup> εὐχομαι ἐλπόμενος: ἔλπομαι εὐχόμενος Zenodotus.

<sup>46</sup> Line 528 was rejected by Zenodotus and Aristarchus.

<sup>47</sup> Lines 535–537 were omitted by Zenodotus.

<sup>48</sup> Line 540 was apparently not read by Aristarchus.

οἱ δ' ἵππους μὲν λῦσαν ὑπὸ ζυγοῦ ἰδρώοντας,  
 δῆσαν δ' ἰμάντεσσι παρ' ἄρμασιν οἷσιν ἕκαστος·  
 545 ἕκ πόλιος δ' ἄζοντο βόας καὶ ἵφια μῆλα  
 καρπαλίμως, οἶνον δὲ μελίφρονα οἰνίζοντο,  
 σῖτόν τ' ἕκ μεγάρων, ἐπὶ δὲ ξύλα πολλὰ λέγοντο.  
 ἔρδον δ' ἀθανάτοισι τεληέσσας ἑκατόμβας.<sup>49</sup>  
 κνίσην δ' ἕκ πεδίου ἄνεμοι φέρον οὐρανὸν εἴσω  
 550 ἠδεῖαν· τῆς δ' οὐ τι θεοὶ μάκαρες दाτέοντο,  
 οὐδ' ἔθελον· μάλα γάρ σφιν ἀπήχθετο Ἴλιος ἱρή,  
 καὶ Πριάμος καὶ λαὸς ἐνμμελίῳ Πριάμοιο.

Οἱ δὲ μέγα φρονέοντες ἐπὶ πτολέμοιο γεφύρας  
 ἦατο παννύχιοι, πυρὰ δὲ σφισι καίετο πολλά.  
 555 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἐν οὐρανῷ ἄστρα φαεινὴν ἀμφὶ σελήνην  
 φαίνεται ἀριπρεπέα, ὅτε τ' ἔπλετο ἠέμενος αἰθήρ·  
 ἕκ τ' ἔφανε πᾶσαι σκοπιαὶ καὶ πρόωνες ἄκροι<sup>50</sup>  
 καὶ νάπαι οὐρανόθεν δ' ἄρ' ὑπερράγη ἄσπετος αἰθήρ,  
 πάντα δὲ εἶδεται ἄστρα, γέγηθε δέ τε φρένα ποιμήν·  
 560 τόσσα μεσηγὺ νεῶν ἡδὲ Ξάνθοιο ῥοάων  
 Τρώων καιόντων πυρὰ φαίνετο Ἰλιόθι πρό.  
 χίλι<sup>51</sup> ἄρ' ἐν πεδίῳ πυρὰ καίετο, πὰρ δὲ ἐκάστῳ  
 ἦατο πεντήκοντα σέλα πυρὸς αἰθομένοιο.  
 ἵπποι δὲ κρῖ λευκὸν ἐρεπτόμενοι καὶ ὀλύρας  
 565 ἑσταότες παρ' ὅχεσφιν εὐθρονον Ἠῶ μίμνον.

<sup>49</sup> Lines 548 and 550–552, not found in the MSS. of the *Iliad*, are found in [Plato,] *Alcib. II.* 149 D.

<sup>50</sup> Lines 557 f. were rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

<sup>51</sup> χίλι'· μυρί' Zenodotus.



shouted aloud. Their sweating horses they loosed from beneath the yoke, and tethered them with thongs, each man beside his own chariot; and from the city they brought oxen and noble sheep quickly, and provided honey-hearted wine and bread from their houses, and furthermore gathered abundant wood; and offered to the immortals perfect hecatombs. And from the plain the winds bore the savor up into heaven—a sweet savor, but the blessed gods partook not of it, nor were they minded to; for utterly hated by them was sacred Ilios, and Priam, and the people of Priam of the good ashen spear.

These then with high hearts stayed the whole night through along the lines of war, and their fires burned in multitudes. Just as in the sky about the gleaming moon the stars shine clear when the air is windless, and into view come all mountain peaks and high headlands and glades, and from heaven breaks open the infinite air, and all the stars are seen, and the shepherd rejoices in his heart; in such multitudes between the ships and the streams of Xanthus shone the fires that the Trojans kindled before Ilios. A thousand fires were burning in the plain and by each sat fifty men in the glow of the blazing fire. And their horses, eating of white barley and spelt, stood beside the chariots and waited for fair-throned Dawn.

# I

Ὡς οἱ μὲν Τρῶες φυλακὰς ἔχον· αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιοὺς  
 θεσπεσίῃ ἔχε φύζα, φόβου κρυνόεντος ἑταίρη,  
 πένθει δ' ἀτλήτῳ βεβολήατο πάντες ἄριστοι.  
 ὥς δ' ἄνεμοι δύο πόντον ὀρίνετον ἰχθυόεντα,  
 5 Βορέης καὶ Ζέφυρος, τῷ τε Θρήκηθεν ἄητον,  
 ἐλθόντ' ἐξαπίνης· ἄμυδις δέ τε κῦμα κελαινὸν  
 κορθύεται, πολλὸν δὲ παρέξ ἄλα φῦκος ἔχευεν·  
 ὥς ἐδαΐζετο θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν Ἀχαιῶν.

Ἀτρεΐδης δ' ἄχει μεγάλῳ βεβολημένος ἦτορ  
 10 φοίτα κηρύκεσσι λιγυφθόγγοισι κελεύων  
 κλήδην εἰς ἀγορὴν κικλήσκειν ἄνδρα ἕκαστον,  
 μηδὲ βοᾶν· αὐτὸς δὲ μετὰ πρῶτοισι πονεῖτο.  
 ἴζον δ' εἰν ἀγορῇ τετιηότες· ἂν δ' Ἀγαμέμνων  
 ἴστατο δάκρυ χέων ὥς τε κρήνη μελάνυδρος,  
 15 ἥ τε κατ' αἰγίλιπος πέτρης δνοφερὸν χέει ὕδωρ·  
 ὥς ὁ βαρὺ στενάχων<sup>1</sup> ἔπε' Ἀργείοισι μετηύδα·  
 “ὦ φίλοι, Ἀργείων ἡγήτορες ἡδὲ μέδοντες,  
 Ζεὺς με μέγας<sup>2</sup> Κρονίδης ἄτῃ ἐνέδησε βαρείῃ,  
 σχέτλιος, ὃς πρὶν μὲν μοι ὑπέσχετο καὶ κατένευσεν

<sup>1</sup> ὥς τε (line 14) . . . στενάχων: Zenodotus omitted these words and for ἔπε' . . . μετηύδα read μετὰ δ' Ἀργείοισιν ἔειπεν.

## BOOK 9

Thus held the Trojans their watch, but the Achaeans were held by a wondrous panic, the comrade of numbing fear, and with grief intolerable were all the best men stricken. Just as two winds stir up the teeming deep, the North Wind and the West Wind that blow from Thrace, coming up suddenly, and immediately the dark wave rears itself in crests and casts much seaweed out along the shore, so were the hearts of the Achaeans torn within their breasts.

But the son of Atreus, stricken to the heart with great distress, went about ordering the clear-voiced heralds to summon every man by name to the place of assembly, but not to shout aloud; and he himself toiled among the foremost. So they sat in the place of assembly, deeply troubled, and Agamemnon stood up weeping like a fountain of dark water that down over the face of a sheer cliff pours its dusky stream; just so, groaning deeply he addressed the Argives, saying: "My friends, leaders and counselors of the Argives, great Zeus, son of Cronos, has ensnared me in grievous blindness of heart, hard god, who at one time promised me, and nodded his head to it, that only after

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<sup>2</sup> μέγας Aristarchus: μέγα (cf. 2. 111).

- 20 Ἴλιον ἐκπέρσαντ' ἐντείχεον ἀπονέεσθαι,  
νῦν δὲ κακὴν ἀπάτην βουλευσατο, καί με κελεύει  
δυσκλέα Ἄργος ἰκέσθαι, ἐπεὶ πολὺν ὤλεσα λαόν.  
οὕτω που Διὶ μέλλει ὑπερμενέει φίλον εἶναι,<sup>3</sup>  
ὃς δὴ πολλάων πολίων κατέλυσε κάρηνα
- 25 ἥδ' ἔτι καὶ λύσει· τοῦ γὰρ κράτος ἐστὶ μέγιστον.  
ἀλλ' ἄγεθ', ὥς ἂν ἐγὼ εἶπω, πειθώμεθα πάντες·  
φεύγωμεν σὺν νηυσὶ φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν·  
οὐ γὰρ ἔτι Τροίην αἰρήσομεν εὐρυάγυιαν.”
- ὣς ἔφαθ', οἳ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ.
- 30 δὴν δ' ἄνεω ἦσαν τετιηότες νῆες Ἀχαιῶν·  
ὁψὲ δὲ δὴ μετέειπε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
“Ἀτρεΐδῃ, σοὶ πρῶτα μαχήσομαι ἀφραδέοντι,  
ἣ θέμις ἐστίν, ἄναξ, ἀγορῇ· σὺ δὲ μή τι χολωθῆς.  
ἀλκὴν μὲν μοι πρῶτον ὀνειδίσας ἐν Δαναοῖσι,  
35 φᾶς ἔμεν ἀπτόλεμον καὶ ἀνάλκιδα· ταῦτα δὲ πάντα  
ἴσας Ἄργείων ἡμὲν νέοι ἠδὲ γέροντες.<sup>4</sup>  
σοὶ δὲ διάνδιχα δῶκε Κρόνου πάϊς ἀγκυλομήτεω·  
σκῆπτρῳ μὲν τοι δῶκε τετιμῆσθαι περὶ πάντων,  
ἀλκὴν δ' οὗ τοι δῶκεν, ὃ τε κράτος ἐστὶ μέγιστον.
- 40 δαιμόνι', οὕτω που μάλα ἔλπει νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
ἀπτολέμους τ' ἔμεναι καὶ ἀνάλκιδας, ὥς ἀγορεύεις;  
εἰ δέ τοι αὐτῷ θυμὸς ἐπέσσυται ὥς τε νέεσθαι,  
ἔρχεο· πάρ τοι ὁδός, νῆες δέ τοι ἄγχι θαλάσσης  
ἐστᾶσ', αἷ τοι ἔποντο Μυκῆνηθεν μάλα πολλαί.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Lines 23–25 were rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus; in place of 23–31 Zenodotus gave,

sacking well-walled Ilios would I return home; but now he has planned cruel deceit, and tells me to return inglorious to Argos, when I have lost many men. Such, I suppose, must be the pleasure of Zeus, supreme in might, who has laid low the towers of many cities and will lay low still more, for his power is very great. But come, just as I shall say, let us all obey: let us flee with our ships to our dear native land; for no longer is there hope that we shall take broad-wayed Troy."

So he spoke, and they all became hushed in silence. Long were the sons of the Achaeans silent, deeply troubled, but at length there spoke among them Diomedes, good at the war cry: "Son of Atreus, with you first will I contend in your folly, where it is my right, O king, in the place of assembly: and do not be at all angry. My valor you first reviled among the Danaans, and said that I was no man of war but lacking in valor; and all this know the Achaeans both young and old. But as for you, the son of crooked-counseling Cronos has given you a double endowment: with the scepter he has granted you to be honored above all, but valor he gave you not, in which is the greatest might. Strange man, do you really think that the sons of the Achaeans are so unwarlike and lacking in valor as you proclaim? If your own heart is eager to return home, go; before you lies the way, and your ships stand beside the sea, all the many ships that followed you from Mycenae. But

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*ἦτοι ὃ γ' ὡς εἰπὼν κατ' ἄρ' ἔζετο θυμὸν ἀχέων,  
τοῖσι δ' ἀνιστάμενος μετέφη κρατερὸς Διομήδης·  
ἡμὲν . . . γέροντες: ἡγήτορες ἡδὲ μέδοντες Zenodotus.*

<sup>5</sup> Line 44 was rejected by Aristarchus.

- 45 ἀλλ' ἄλλοι μενέουσι κάρη κομόωντες Ἀχαιοὶ  
εἰς ὃ κέ περ Τροίην διαπέρσομεν. εἰ δὲ καὶ αὐτοὶ  
φευγόντων σὺν νηυσὶ φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν·  
νῶϊ δ', ἐγὼ Σθένελός τε, μαχησόμεθ' εἰς ὃ κε τέκμων  
Ἴλιου εὖρωμεν· σὺν γὰρ θεῶ ἐιλήλουθμεν.”
- 50 Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἐπίαχον νῆες Ἀχαιῶν,  
μῦθον ἀγασσάμενοι Διομήδεος ἵπποδάμοιο.  
τοῖσι δ' ἀνιστάμενος μετεφώνεεν ἵπποτα Νέστωρ·  
“Τυδεΐδη, πέρι μὲν πολέμῳ ἔνι καρτερός ἐσσι,  
καὶ βουλῇ μετὰ πάντας ὁμήλικας ἔπλευ ἄριστος.
- 55 οὐ τίς τοι τὸν μῦθον ὀνόσσεται, ὅσσοι Ἀχαιοί,  
οὐδὲ πάλιν ἐρέει· ἀτὰρ οὐ τέλος ἔκεο μύθων.  
ἧ μὲν καὶ νέος ἐσσί, ἐμὸς δέ κε καὶ πάις εἴης  
ὀπλότατος γενεῆφιν· ἀτὰρ πεπνυμένα βάζεις  
Ἀργείων βασιλῆας, ἐπεὶ κατὰ μοῖραν ἔειπες.
- 60 ἀλλ' ἄγ' ἐγών, ὃς σείο γεραίτερος εὐχομαι εἶναι,  
ἐξείπω καὶ πάντα διίξομαι· οὐδέ κέ τίς μοι  
μῦθον ἀτιμήσει, οὐδὲ κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων.  
ἀφρήτωρ ἀθέμιστος ἀνέστιός ἐστιν ἐκείνος  
ὃς πολέμου ἔραται ἐπιδημίου ὀκρυνέοντος.
- 65 ἀλλ' ἧ τοι νῦν μὲν πειθώμεθα νυκτὶ μελαίνῃ  
δόρπα τ' ἐφοπλισόμεσθα· φυλακτῆρες δὲ ἕκαστοι  
λεξάσθων παρὰ τάφρον ὀρυκτὴν τείχεος ἐκτός.  
κούροισιν μὲν ταῦτ' ἐπιτέλλομαι· αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα,  
Ἀτρεΐδῃ, σὺ μὲν ἄρχε· σὺ γὰρ βασιλεύτατός ἐσσι.
- 70 δαῖνυ δαῖτα γέρουσιν· ἔοικέ τοι, οὐ τοι ἀεικές.  
πλεῖαί τοι οἶνου κλισίαι, τὸν νῆες Ἀχαιῶν  
ἡμάτιαι Θρήκηθεν ἐπ' εὐρέα πόντον ἄγουσι

the other long-haired Achaeans will remain here until we have sacked Troy. And if they, too . . . let them flee in their ships to their dear native land; yet will we two, Sthenelus and I, fight on, until we win the goal of Ilios; for with the aid of a god have we come."

So he spoke, and all the sons of the Achaeans shouted aloud, applauding the words of Diomedes, tamer of horses. Then rose up and spoke among them the horseman Nestor: "Son of Tydeus, above all men are you mighty in battle, and in council are the best among all those of your own age. Not one of all the Achaeans will make light of what you say nor gainsay it; yet you have not reached a final end of words. You are, to be sure, but young, you might even be my son, my youngest born; yet you give prudent counsel to the kings of the Argives since you speak according to right. But come, I who claim to be older than you will speak out and will declare all; nor will any man scorn my words, not even lord Agamemnon. A clanless, lawless, hearthless man is he who loves the horror of war among his own people. But for now let us yield to black night and make ready our meal; and let sentinels post themselves in groups along the trench we have dug outside the wall. To the young men I give this charge; but then you, son of Atreus, take the lead, for you are most kingly. Make a feast for the elders; this is surely right and surely fitting. Full are your huts of wine that the ships of the Achaeans bring you each day over the wide sea from Thrace; all man-

- πᾶσά τοί ἐσθ' ὑποδεξίῃ, πολέεσσι δ' ἀνάσσεις.  
 πολλῶν δ' ἀγρομένων τῷ πείσειαι ὅς κεν ἀρίστην  
 75 βουλὴν βουλεύσῃ. μάλα δὲ χρεὼ πάντας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 ἐσθλῆς καὶ πυκινῆς, ὅτι δήιοι ἐγγύθι νηῶν  
 καίουσιν πυρὰ πολλά· τίς ἂν τάδε γηθήσειε;  
 νῦξ δ' ἥδ' ἡ ἐξαρραΐσει στρατὸν ἢ σαώσει.”  
 Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα τοῦ μάλα μὲν κλύον ἥδ'  
 ἐπίθοντο.  
 80 ἐκ δὲ φυλακτῆρες σὺν τεύχεσιν ἐσσεύοντο  
 ἀμφί τε Νεστορίδην Θρασυμήδεα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
 ἥδ' ἀμφ' Ἀσκάλαφον καὶ Ἰάλμενον, νῆας Ἄρης,  
 ἀμφι τε Μηριόνην Ἀφαρῆά τε Δηίπυρόν τε,  
 ἥδ' ἀμφὶ Κρείοντος υἱὸν Λυκυμήδεα διῶν.  
 85 ἔπτ' ἔσαν ἡγεμόνες φυλάκων, ἑκατὸν δὲ ἐκάστω  
 κοῦροι ἅμ' ἔστειχον δολίχ' ἔγχεα χερσὶν ἔχοντες·  
 καδ δὲ μέσον τάφρου καὶ τείχεος ἵζον ἰόντες·  
 ἔνθα δὲ πῦρ κήαντο, τίθεντο δὲ δόρπα ἕκαστος.<sup>6</sup>  
 Ἀτρεΐδης δὲ γέροντας<sup>7</sup> ἀολλέας ἦγεν Ἀχαιῶν  
 90 ἐς κλισίην, παρὰ δέ σφι τίθει μενοεικέα δαῖτα.  
 οἱ δ' ἐπ' ὀνείαθ' ἐτοῖμα προκείμενα χεῖρας ἱαλλον.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,  
 τοῖς ὁ γέρων πάμπρωτος ὑφαίνειν ἤρχετο μῆτιν,  
 Νέστωρ, οὗ καὶ πρόσθεν ἀρίστη φαίνεται βουλή.  
 95 ὁ σφιν ἐὺ φρονέων ἀγορήσατο καὶ μετέειπεν·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδη κύδιστε, ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγάμεμνον,  
 ἐν σοὶ μὲν λήξω, σέο δ' ἄρξομαι, οὐνεκα πολλῶν  
 λαῶν ἐσσι ἄναξ καὶ τοι Ζεὺς ἐγγυάλιξε



## BOOK 9

ner of hospitality have you at hand, since you are king over many. And when many are gathered together, you will follow whoever devises the wisest counsel. And great need have all the Achaeans of counsel both good and prudent, since foes hard by the ships are kindling their many watch-fires; what man could rejoice at that? This night will either utterly destroy the army or save it."

So he spoke, and they eagerly heard him and obeyed. Out rushed the sentinels in their armor around Nestor's son Thrasymedes, shepherd of men, and Ascalaphus and Ialmenus, sons of Ares, and Meriones and Aphareus and Deïpyrus, and the son of Creon, noble Lycomedes. Seven were the leaders of the sentinels, and with each strode one hundred young men holding long spears in their hands; then they went and sat down midway between trench and wall; and there they kindled a fire and made ready each man his meal.

But the son of Atreus led the counselors of the Achaeans all together to his hut, and set before them a feast to satisfy the heart. So they set their hands to the good cheer lying ready before them. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, first of all the old man began to weave the web of counsel for them, Nestor, whose counsel earlier also appeared the best. He with good intent addressed their assembly and spoke among them: "Most glorious son of Atreus, Agamemnon, lord of men, with you will I begin and with you make an end, because you are king over many men, and Zeus has put into

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<sup>6</sup> δόρπα ἕκαστος: δαῖτα θάλειαν Zenodotus.

<sup>7</sup> γέροντας: ἀριστέας Aristarchus.

- σκῆπτρόν τ' ἡδὲ θέμιστας, ἵνα σφίσι βουλευήσθαι.  
 100 τῷ σε χρὴ πέρι μὲν φάσθαι ἔπος ἡδ' ἐπακοῦσαι,  
 κρηῆναι δὲ καὶ ἄλλω, ὅτ' ἂν τινα θυμὸς ἀνώγη  
 εἰπεῖν εἰς ἀγαθόν· σέο δ' ἔξεται ὅττι κεν ἄρχῃ.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν ἐρέω ὥς μοι δοκεῖ εἶναι ἄριστα.  
 οὐ γάρ τις νόον ἄλλος ἀμείνονα τοῦδε νοήσῃ,  
 105 οἷον ἐγὼ νοέω, ἡμὲν πάλαι ἡδ' ἔτι καὶ νῦν,  
 ἐξ ἔτι τοῦ ὅτε, διογενές, Βρισηίδα κούρην  
 χωομένου Ἀχιλῆος ἔβης κλισίηθεν ἀπούρας  
 οὗ τι καθ' ἡμέτερόν γε νόον· μάλα γάρ τοι ἐγὼ γε  
 πόλλ' ἀπεμυθεόμην· σὺ δὲ σῶ μεγαλήτορι θυμῷ  
 110 εἵξας ἄνδρα φέριστον, ὃν ἀθάνατοί περ ἔτισαν,  
 ἡτίμησας· ἐλὼν γὰρ ἔχεις γέρας· ἀλλ' ἔτι καὶ νῦν  
 φραζώμεσθ' ὥς κέν μιν ἀρεσσάμενοι πεπίθωμεν  
 δῶροισιν τ' ἀγανοῖσιν ἔπεσσί τε μελιχίοισι.”  
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 115 “ὦ γέρον, οὗ τι ψεῦδος ἐμὰς ἄτας κατέλεξας.  
 ἀασάμην, οὐδ' αὐτὸς ἀναίνομαι. ἀντί νυ πολλῶν  
 λαῶν ἐστὶν ἀνὴρ ὃν τε Ζεὺς κῆρι φιλήσῃ,  
 ὥς νῦν τοῦτον ἔτισε, δάμασσε δὲ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν.  
 ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ ἀασάμην φρεσὶ λευγαλέησι πιθήσας,  
 120 ἅψ' ἐθέλω ἀρέσαι δόμεναί τ' ἀπερείσι' ἄποινα.  
 ὑμῖν δ' ἐν πάντεσσι περικλυτὰ δῶρ' ὀνομήνω,  
 ἔπτ' ἀπύρους τρίποδας, δέκα δὲ χρυσοῖο τάλαντα,  
 αἶθωνας δὲ λέβητας ἐείκοσι, δώδεκα δ' ἵππους  
 125 οὗ κεν ἀλῆιος εἴῃ ἀνὴρ ᾧ τόσσα γένοιτο,  
 οὐδέ κεν ἀκτῆμων ἐριτίμοιο χρυσοῖο,

your hands the scepter and rights, so that you may take counsel for your people. Therefore you must above all others both speak and listen, and fulfill also for another whatever his heart may command him to speak for our profit; for on you will depend whatever any man may begin. So will I speak what seems to me to be best. No other man will devise a better thought than this I have long had in mind and still think now, ever since the day when you, O king sprung from Zeus, went and took from the hut of the angry Achilles the maiden Briseïs—in no way according to our thinking. I, for my part, earnestly sought to dissuade you; but you yielded to your proud heart, and on a man most mighty, whom the very immortals honored, you put dishonor; for you took away and keep his prize. But let us still even now consider how we may make amends, and persuade him with kindly gifts and gentle words.”

And to him the lord of men, Agamemnon, made answer: “Old sir, not at all falsely have you recounted the tale of my blindness. Blind I was, I myself deny it not. Worth many men is the man whom Zeus loves in his heart, just as now he honors this man and vanquishes the army of the Achaeans. Yet since I was blind through yielding to my miserable passion, I am minded to make amends and to give compensation past counting. In the presence of you all let me name the glorious gifts: seven tripods that the fire has not touched, and ten talents of gold and twenty gleaming cauldrons, and twelve strong horses, winners in the race, that have won prizes by their fleetness. Not without booty would that man be, nor unpossessed of precious

- ὅσσα μοι ἠνείκαντο ἀέθλια μώνυχες ἵπποι.  
 δώσω δ' ἐπὶ γυναικάς ἀμύμονα ἔργα ἰδυίας,  
 Λεσβίδας, ἃς ὅτε Λέσβον ἐκτιμένην ἔλεν αὐτὸς  
 130 ἐξελόμην, αἱ κάλλει ἐνίκων φύλα γυναικῶν.  
 τὰς μὲν οἱ δώσω, μετὰ δ' ἔσσεται ἦν τότ' ἀπηύρων,  
 κούρη Βρισῆος· καὶ ἐπὶ μέγαν ὄρκον ὁμοῦμαι  
 μή ποτε τῆς εὐνῆς ἐπιβήμεναι ἡδὲ μιγῆναι,  
 ἣ θέμις ἀνθρώπων πέλει, ἀνδρῶν ἡδὲ γυναικῶν.  
 135 ταῦτα μὲν αὐτίκα πάντα παρέσσεται· εἰ δέ κεν αὔτε  
 ἄστυ μέγα Πριάμοιο θεοὶ δώσωσ' ἀλαπάξαι,  
 νῆα ἄλῃς χρυσοῦ καὶ χαλκοῦ νηησάσθω  
 εἰσελθών, ὅτε κεν δατεώμεθα ληίδ' Ἀχαιοί,  
 Τρωιάδας δὲ γυναικάς ἐείκοσιν αὐτὸς ἐλέσθω,  
 140 αἷ κε μετ' Ἀργεῖην Ἑλένην κάλλισται ἔωσιν.  
 εἰ δέ κεν Ἄργος ἰκοίμεθ' Ἀχαιικόν, οὐθαρ ἀρούρης,  
 γαμβρός κέν μοι ἔοι· τίσω δέ μιν ἴσον Ὀρέστη,  
 ὅς μοι τηλύγετος τρέφεται θαλίῃ ἐνὶ πολλῇ.  
 τρεῖς δέ μοι εἰσι θύγατρες ἐνὶ μεγάρῳ ἐνπήκτω,  
 145 Χρυσόθεμις καὶ Λαοδίκη καὶ Ἰφιάνασσα,  
 τάων ἦν κ' ἐθέλῃσι φίλην ἀνάεδνον ἀγέσθω  
 πρὸς οἶκον Πηλῆος· ἐγὼ δ' ἐπὶ μείλια δώσω  
 πολλὰ μάλ', ὅσσ' οὐ πώ τις ἐῖς ἐπέδωκε θυγατρί.  
 ἐπὶ δέ οἱ δώσω ἐν ναιόμενα πτολίεθρα,  
 150 Καρδαμύλην Ἐνόπην τε καὶ Ἴρην ποιήεσσαν,  
 Φηράς τε ζαθέας ἡδ' Ἀνθειαν βαθύλειμον,  
 καλήν τ' Αἴπειαν καὶ Πήδασον ἀμπελόεσσαν.  
 πᾶσαι δ' ἐγγὺς ἁλός, νέεται Πύλου ἡμαθόεντος·  
 ἐν δ' ἄνδρες ναίουσι πολύρρηνες πολυβούται,

gold, who had wealth as great as the prizes my single-hoofed horses have won for me. And I will give seven women skilled in noble handiwork, women of Lesbos, whom on the day when Achilles himself took well-built Lesbos I chose out for myself from the spoil, who in beauty surpassed all the tribes of women. These will I give him, and among them will be she whom then I took away, the daughter of Briseus; and I will furthermore swear a great oath that I never went up into her bed nor slept with her, which is the custom of mankind, men and women. All these things will be his immediately; and if hereafter the gods grant us to lay waste the great city of Priam, let him then enter in, when we Achaeans are dividing the spoil, and heap up his ship with gold and bronze, and himself choose twenty Trojan women who are fairest after Argive Helen. And if we return to Achaean Argos, richest of lands, he shall be my son, and I will honor him like Orestes, who is reared in all abundance, my son well-beloved. Three daughters have I in my well-built hall, Chrysothemis, and Laodice, and Iphianassa; of these let him lead as his own to the house of Peleus whichever one he will, without bride price; and I will in addition give a very rich dowry, such as no man ever yet gave with his daughter. And seven well-peopled cities will I give him, Cardamyle, Enope, and grassy Hire, and sacred Pherae and Antheia with its deep meadows, and fair Aepeia and vine-clad Pegasus. All are near the sea, on the uttermost borders of sandy Pylos, and in them dwell men rich in flocks and rich in cattle, men

- 155 οἷ κέ ἐ δωτίνησι θεὸν ὥς τιμήσουσι  
 καὶ οἱ ὑπὸ σκήπτρῳ λιπαρὰς τελέουσι θέμιστας.  
 ταῦτά κέ οἱ τελέσαιμι μεταλλήξαντι χόλοιο.  
 δμηθήτω<sup>8</sup>—Ἀΐδης τοι ἀμείλιχος ἦδ' ἀδάμαστος·  
 τοῦνεκα καὶ τε βροτοῖσι θεῶν ἔχθιστος ἀπάντων—  
 160 καὶ μοι ὑποστήτω, ὅσπον βασιλεύτερός εἰμι  
 ἦδ' ὅσπον γενεῇ προγενέστερος εὐχομαι εἶναι.”  
 Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ κύδιστε, ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγάμεμνον,  
 δῶρα μὲν οὐκέτ' ὄνοστα διδοῖς Ἀχιλῇ ἀνακτι  
 165 ἀλλ' ἄγετε, κλητοὺς ὀτρύνομεν, οἷ κε τάχιστα  
 ἔλθωσ' ἐς κλισίην Πηληιάδew Ἀχιλῆος.  
 εἰ δ' ἄγε, τοὺς ἂν ἐγὼ ἐπιόψομαι, οἱ δὲ πιθέσθων.  
 Φοῖνιξ μὲν πρῶτιστα δῖφιλος ἡγησάσθω,  
 αὐτὰρ ἔπειτ' Αἴας τε μέγας καὶ δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·  
 170 κηρύκων δ' Ὀδῖος τε καὶ Εὐρυβάτης ἅμ' ἐπέσθων.  
 φέρτε δὲ χερσὶν ὕδωρ, ἐνφημῆσαί τε κέλεσθε,  
 ὄφρα Διὶ Κρονίδῃ ἀρησόμεθ', αἷ κ' ἐλεήσῃ.”  
 ὣς φάτο, τοῖσι δὲ πᾶσιν ἐαδότα μῦθον ἔειπεν.  
 αὐτίκα κήρυκες μὲν ὕδωρ ἐπὶ χεῖρας ἔχεναν,  
 175 κοῦροι δὲ κρητῆρας ἐπεστέψαντο ποτοῖο,  
 νώμησαν δ' ἄρα πᾶσιν ἐπαρξάμενοι δεπάεσσιν.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ σπείσαν τ' ἐπιόν θ' ὅσον ἤθελε θυμός,  
 ὠρμῶντ' ἐκ κλισίης Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδαο.  
 τοῖσι δὲ πόλλ' ἐπέτελλε Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ,  
 180 δεινδύλλων ἐς ἕκαστον, Ὀδυσσῇ δὲ μάλιστα,  
 πειρᾶν ὥς πεπίθοιεν ἀμύμονα Πηλεΐωνα.

who will honor him with gifts as though he were a god, and beneath his scepter will bring his ordinances to prosperous fulfillment. All this will I bring to pass for him, if he but ceases from his wrath. Let him yield—Hades, to be sure, is ungentle and unyielding, and for that reason he is most hated by mortals of all gods—and let him submit himself to me, since so much more kingly am I, and claim to be so much his elder.”

Then made answer the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: “Most glorious son of Atreus, Agamemnon, lord of men, the gifts that you are giving the king Achilles can no longer be faulted. But come, let us send chosen men to go quickly to the hut of Peleus’ son, Achilles. Or rather, whomever I shall choose, let them obey. First of all let Phoenix, dear to Zeus, lead the way, and after him great Aias and noble Odysseus; and of the heralds let Odios and Eurybates attend them. And now bring water for our hands, and ask them to keep holy silence, so that we may make prayer to Zeus, son of Cronos, in the hope that he will have compassion on us.”

So said he and the words that he spoke were pleasing to all. Then heralds poured water over their hands, and youths filled the bowls brim full of drink, and served out to all, pouring first drops for libation into the cups. But when they had poured libations and had drunk to their hearts’ content, they started out from the hut of Agamemnon, son of Atreus. And the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, gave them many instructions with a glance at each, and chiefly at Odysseus, that they should try to persuade the incomparable son of Peleus.

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<sup>8</sup> *δηθητόω: καμφθήτω* Zenodotus and Aristophanes.

Τὼ δὲ βάτην παρὰ θίνα πολυφλοίσβοιο θαλάσσης,

πολλὰ μάλ' εὐχομένω γαιηόχῳ Ἐννοσιγαίῳ  
ῥηιδίως πεπιθεῖν μεγάλας φρένας Αἰακίδαο.

185 Μυρμιδόνων δ' ἐπὶ τε κλισίας καὶ νῆας ἰκέσθην,  
τὸν δ' εὔρον φρένα τερπόμενον φόρμιγγι λιγείῃ,  
καλῇ δαιδαλέῃ, ἐπὶ δ' ἀργύρεον ζυγὸν ἦεν,  
τὴν ἄρετ' ἐξ ἐνάρων πόλιν Ἡετίωνος ὀλέσσας.  
τῇ ὅ γε θυμὸν ἔτερπεν, αἶειδε δ' ἄρα κλέα ἀνδρῶν·

190 Πάτροκλος δέ οἱ οἶος ἐναντίος ἦστο σιωπῇ,  
δέγμενος Αἰακίδαην, ὅποτε λήξειεν αἰείδων.  
τὼ δὲ βάτην προτέρω, ἡγείτο δὲ δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,  
στὰν δὲ πρόσθ' αὐτοῖο· ταφὼν δ' ἀνόρουσεν Ἀχιλλεύς  
αὐτῇ σὺν φόρμιγγι, λιπὼν ἔδος ἔνθα θάασσεν·  
195 ὥς δ' αὐτως Πάτροκλος, ἐπεὶ ἶδε φῶτας, ἀνέστη.  
τὼ καὶ δεικνύμενος προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλλεύς·  
“χαίρετον· ἦ φίλοι ἄνδρες ἰκάνετον—ἦ τι μάλα  
χρεώ—<sup>9</sup>

οἷ μοι σκυζομένῳ περ Ἀχαιῶν φίλτατοί ἐστον.”

Ἦς ἄρα φωνήσας προτέρω ἄγε δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς,  
200 εἶσεν δ' ἐν κλισμοῖσι τάπησί τε πορφυρέοισιν·  
αἶψα δὲ Πάτροκλον προσεφώνεεν ἐγγὺς ἑόντα·  
“μείζονα δὴ κρητῆρα, Μεινοιτίου νιέ, καθίστα,  
ζωρότερον δὲ κέραιε, δέπας δ' ἔντυνον ἐκάστω·  
οἱ γὰρ φίλτατοι ἄνδρες ἐμῷ ὑπέασι μελάθρῳ.”

205 Ἦς φάτο, Πάτροκλος δὲ φίλῳ ἐπεπείθεθ' ἐταίρῳ.  
αὐτὰρ ὅ γε κρεῖον μέγα κάββαλεν ἐν πυρὸς αὐγῇ,  
ἐν δ' ἄρα νῶτον ἔθηκ' οἶος καὶ πίνος αἰγός,



So the two of them went along the shore of the loud-resounding sea, with many an earnest prayer to the god who holds the earth and shakes it, that they might easily persuade the great mind of Aeacus' grandson. And they came to the huts and the ships of the Myrmidons, and him they found delighting his mind with a clear-toned lyre, fair and elaborate, and on it was a bridge of silver; this he had taken from the spoil when he destroyed the city of Eëtion. With it he was delighting his heart, and he sang of the glorious deeds of warriors; and Patroclus alone sat opposite him in silence, waiting until Aeacus' grandson should cease from singing. But the two came forward and noble Odysseus led the way, and they stood before him; and Achilles leapt up in amazement with the lyre in his hand, and left the seat on which he had been sitting; and in like manner Patroclus when he saw the men rose up. Then swift-footed Achilles greeted the two and spoke, saying: "Welcome, you are friends indeed that have come—the need must surely be great—you who even in my anger are to me the dearest of the Achaeans."

So saying, noble Achilles led them in and had them sit on couches and rugs of purple; and immediately he spoke to Patroclus, who was near: "Set out a larger bowl, son of Menoetius; mix stronger drink, and prepare a cup for each of them, for the men who are most dear are here under my roof."

So he spoke, and Patroclus obeyed his dear comrade. He cast down a great chopping block in the light of the fire and laid on it a sheep's back and a fat goat's, and the chine

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<sup>9</sup> ἦ τι μάλα χρεώ: ἡμέτερόνδε Aristarchus.

- ἐν δὲ συνὸς σιάλοιο ῥάχιν τεθαλυῖαν ἀλοιφῇ.  
 τῷ δ' ἔχεν Αὐτομέδων, τάμνεν δ' ἄρα διὸς Ἀχιλλεύς.  
 210 καὶ τὰ μὲν εὖ μίστυλλε καὶ ἀμφ' ὀβελοῖσιν ἔπειρε,  
 πῦρ δὲ Μενoitιάδης δαῖεν μέγα, ἰσόθεος φῶς.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κατὰ πῦρ ἐκάη καὶ φλόξ ἐμαράνθη,  
 ἀνθρακιὴν στορέσας ὀβελούς ἐφύπερθε τάνυσσε,  
 πάσσε δ' ἀλὸς θείοιο κρατευτάων ἐπαείρας.  
 215 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ὥπτησε καὶ εἰν ἑλεοῖσιν ἔχευε,<sup>10</sup>  
 Πάτροκλος μὲν σῖτον ἐλὼν ἐπένειμε τραπέζῃ  
 καλοῖς ἐν κανέοισιν, ἀτὰρ κρέα νεῖμεν Ἀχιλλεύς.  
 αὐτὸς δ' ἀντίον ἵζεν Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο  
 τοίχου τοῦ ἐτέροιο, θεοῖσι δὲ θῦσαι ἀνώγει  
 220 Πάτροκλον, ὃν ἐταῖρον· ὁ δ' ἐν πυρὶ βάλλε θυηλάς.  
 οἱ δ' ἐπ' ὀνείαθ' ἐτοῖμα προκείμενα χεῖρας ἱαλλον.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ πόσιος καὶ ἐδητύος ἐξ ἔρον ἔντο,  
 νεῦσ' Αἴας Φοῖνικι νόησε δὲ διὸς Ὀδυσσεύς,  
 πλησάμενος δ' οἴνοιο δέπας δείδεκτ' Ἀχιλλῆα·  
 225 “χαῖρ’, Ἀχιλεῦ· δαιτὸς μὲν εἴσης οὐκ ἐπιδευεῖς  
 ἡμὲν ἐνὶ κλισίῃ Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδαι  
 ἦδὲ καὶ ἐνθάδε νῦν· πάρα γὰρ μενοεικέα πολλὰ  
 δαίνυσθ'. ἀλλ' οὐ δαιτὸς ἐπηράτου ἔργα μέμηλεν,  
 ἀλλὰ λῖην μέγα πῆμα, διοτρεφές, εἰσορόωντες  
 230 δείδιμεν· ἐν δοιῇ δὲ σαωσέμεν ἢ ἀπολέσθαι  
 νῆας ἐυσσέλμους, εἰ μὴ σύ γε δύσεαι ἀλκῇ.  
 ἐγγὺς γὰρ νηῶν καὶ τείχεος αὐλιν ἔθεντο  
 Τρῶες ὑπέρθυμοι τηλεκλειτοὶ τ' ἐπίκουροι,  
 κηάμενοι πυρὰ πολλὰ κατὰ στρατόν, οὐδ' ἔτι φασὶ  
 235 σχήσεσθ', ἀλλ' ἐν νηυσὶ μελαίνησιν πεσέεσθαι.

of a great hog, rich with fat. And Automedon held them for him, while noble Achilles carved. Then he cut up the meat with care and spitted it on spits, and the son of Menoetius, a godlike man, made the fire blaze high. But when the fire had burned down and the flame was abated, he scattered the embers and laid the spits over them, and sprinkled the morsels with divine salt when he had set them on the andirons. But when he had roasted the meat and laid it on platters, Patroclus took bread and set it out on the table in fair baskets, while Achilles served the meat. He himself sat down opposite godlike Odysseus by the other wall, and commanded Patroclus, his comrade, to offer sacrifice to the gods; and Patroclus cast burnt offering into the fire. So they set their hands to the good cheer lying ready before them. But when they had put from them the desire of food and drink, Aias nodded to Phoenix; and noble Odysseus took notice, and filling a cup with wine he pledged Achilles: "Greetings, Achilles; of the equal feast we are not lacking, either in the hut of Agamemnon, son of Atreus, or now in yours; for here is abundance that satisfies the heart to feast on. But our minds are not set on matters of the delicious feast, but, Zeus-nurtured one, it is great sorrow that we look on, and are afraid; for it is in doubt whether we save the benched ships or they perish, if you do not clothe yourself in your valor. Hard by the ships and the wall have the Trojans, high of heart, and their far-famed allies set their camp, and kindled many fires throughout the army, and they say that they will no longer be held back, but will

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<sup>10</sup> ἔχενε: ἔθηκε.

- Ζεὺς δέ σφι Κρονίδης ἐνδέξια σήματα φαίνων  
 ἀστράπτει· Ἐκτωρ δὲ μέγα σθένει βλεμεαίνων  
 μαίνεται ἐκπάγλως, πίσυνος Δίῃ, οὐδέ τι τίει  
 ἀνέρας οὐδὲ θεούς· κρατερὴν δέ ἐ λύσσα δέδυκεν.  
 240 ἀράται δὲ τάχιστα φανήμεναι Ἡὼ δῖαν·  
 στεῦται γὰρ νηῶν ἀποκόψειν ἄκρα κόρυμβα  
 αὐτάς τ' ἐμπρήσειν<sup>11</sup> μαλεροῦ πυρός, αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιοὺς  
 δηώσειν παρὰ τῇσιν ὀρινομένους<sup>12</sup> ὑπὸ καπνοῦ.  
 ταῦτ' αἰνῶς δείδοικα κατὰ φρένα, μή οἱ ἀπειλὰς  
 245 ἐκτελέσωσι θεοί, ἡμῖν δὲ δὴ αἴσιμον εἶη  
 φθίσθαι ἐνὶ Τροίῃ ἐκὰς Ἄργεος ἵπποβότοιο.  
 ἀλλ' ἄνα, εἰ μέμονάς γε καὶ ὀψέ περ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
 τειρομένους ἐρύεσθαι ὑπὸ Τρώων ὀρυμαγδοῦ.  
 αὐτῷ τοι μετόπισθ' ἄχος ἔσσεται, οὐδέ τι μῆχος  
 250 ῥεχθέντος κακοῦ ἔστ' ἄκος εὐρεῖν· ἀλλὰ πολὺ πρὶν  
 φράζευ ὅπως Δαναοῖσιν ἀλεξήσεις κακὸν ἡμαρ.  
 ὦ πέπον, ἦ μὲν σοί γε πατὴρ ἐπετέλλετο Πηλεὺς  
 ἡματι τῷ ὅτε σ' ἐκ Φθίης Ἀγαμέμνονι πέμπε·  
 'τέκνον ἐμόν, κάρτος μὲν Ἀθηναίῃ τε καὶ Ἥρῃ  
 255 δώσουσ', αἶ κ' ἐθέλωσι, σὺ δὲ μεγαλήτορα θυμὸν  
 ἴσχειν ἐν στήθεσσι· φιλοφροσύνη γὰρ ἀμείνων·  
 ληγέμεναι δ' ἔριδος κακομηχάνου, ὄφρα σε μᾶλλον  
 τίωσ' Ἀργείων ἡμὲν νέοι ἠδὲ γέροντες·  
 ὥς ἐπέτελλ' ὁ γέρων, σὺ δὲ λήθαι. ἀλλ' ἔτι καὶ νῦν  
 260 παύε', ἕα δὲ χόλον θυμαλγέα· σοὶ δ' Ἀγαμέμνων  
 ἄξια δῶρα δίδωσι μεταλλήξαντι χόλοιο.  
 εἰ δὲ σὺ μὲν μεν ἄκουσον, ἐγὼ δέ κέ τοι καταλέξω  
 ὅσσα τοι ἐν κλισίῃσιν ὑπέσχετο δῶρ' Ἀγαμέμνων·

fall on our black ships. And Zeus, son of Cronos, shows them signs on the right with his lightnings, and Hector exulting greatly in his might rages furiously, trusting in Zeus, and respects neither men nor gods, for mighty madness has entered him. His prayer is that quickly bright Dawn may appear, for he threatens that he will hew from the ships' sterns the topmost ensigns, and burn the very hulls with consuming fire, and by them slaughter the Achaeans, panicked because of the smoke. This is the dreadful fear of my mind, that the gods may fulfill his threats for him, and it be our fate to perish here in Troy, far from horse-pasturing Argos. But up then, if you are inclined, late though it is, to rescue the sons of the Achaeans who are being worn down from the war din of the Trojans. On yourself will sorrow come hereafter, nor can healing be found for a harm once done. But rather, before it is too late, consider how you may ward from the Danaans the day of evil. Good friend, surely your father Peleus charged you on the day when he sent you from Phthia to Agamemnon: 'My son, might will Athene and Hera give you if they are so minded, but curb your proud heart in your breast, for gentle-mindedness is better; and desist from strife, contriver of mischief, so that the Argives both young and old may honor you the more.' Thus did that old man charge you, but you are forgetful. Yet cease even now, and put from you your bitter wrath. To you Agamemnon offers worthy gifts, if you but cease from your anger. But come listen to me, and I will list all the gifts that in his hut Agamemnon promised

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<sup>11</sup> ἐμπρήσειν: ἐμπλήσειν Aristarchus (cf. 2. 415).

<sup>12</sup> ὀρινομένους: ἀτυζομένους (cf. 8. 183).

- 265 ἔπτ' ἀπύρους τρίποδας, δέκα δὲ χρυσοῖο τάλαντα,  
 αἵθωνας δὲ λέβητας ἐείκοσι, δώδεκα δ' ἵππους  
 πηγοὺς ἀθλοφόρους, οἳ ἀέθλια ποσσὶν ἄροντο.  
 οὐ κεν ἀλήιος εἶη ἀνὴρ ᾧ τόσσα γένοιτο,  
 οὐδέ κεν ἀκτῆμων ἐριτίμοιο χρυσοῖο,  
 ὅσσ' Ἀγαμέμνωνος ἵπποι ἀέθλια ποσσὶν ἄροντο.  
 270 δώσει δ' ἑπτὰ γυναῖκας ἀμύμονα ἔργα ἰδυίας,  
 Λεσβίδας, αἷς ὅτε Λέσβον ἐκτιμένην ἔλες αὐτὸς  
 ἐξέλεθ', αἷ τότε κάλλει ἐνίκων φῦλα γυναικῶν.  
 τὰς μὲν τοι δώσει, μετὰ δ' ἔσσεται ἦν τὸτ' ἀπηύρα,  
 κούρη Βρισηῆος· ἐπὶ δὲ μέγαν ὄρκον ὁμείται  
 275 μὴ ποτε τῆς εὐνῆς ἐπιβήμεναι ἢ δὲ μιγῆναι,  
 ἢ θέμις ἐστίν, ἄναξ, ἢ τ' ἀνδρῶν ἢ τε γυναικῶν.  
 ταῦτα μὲν αὐτίκα πάντα παρέσσεται· εἰ δέ κεν αὖτε  
 ἄστυ μέγα Πριάμοιο θεοὶ δώσωσ' ἀλαπάξαι,  
 νῆα ἄλις χρυσοῦ καὶ χαλκοῦ νηήσασθαι  
 280 εἰσελθών, ὅτε κεν δατεώμεθα ληΐδ' Ἀχαιοί,  
 Τρωιάδας δὲ γυναῖκας ἐείκοσιν αὐτὸς ἐλέσθαι,  
 αἷ κε μετ' Ἀργείην Ἑλένην κάλλισται ἔωσιν.  
 εἰ δέ κεν Ἄργος ἰκοίμεθ' Ἀχαικόν, οὐθαρ ἀρούρης,  
 γαμβρός κέν οἱ ἔοις· τίσει δέ σε ἴσον Ὀρέστη,  
 285 ὅς οἱ τηλύγετος τρέφεται θαλίῃ ἐνὶ πολλῇ.  
 τρεῖς δέ οἱ εἰσι θύγατρες ἐνὶ μεγάρῳ εὐπήκτῳ,  
 Χρυσόθεμις καὶ Λαοδίκη καὶ Ἰφιάνασσα·  
 τῶν ἦν κ' ἐθέλησθα φίλην ἀνάεδνον ἄγεσθαι  
 πρὸς οἶκον Πηλῆος· ὁ δ' αὖτ' ἐπὶ μείλια δώσει  
 290 πολλὰ μάλ', ὅσσ' οὐ πώ τις ἐῖ ἐπέδωκε θυγατρί.  
 ἑπτὰ δέ τοι δώσει ἐν ναιόμενα πτολίεθρα,

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you: seven tripods that the fire has not touched, and ten talents of gold and twenty gleaming cauldrons, and twelve strong horses, winners in the race, that have won prizes by their fleetness. Not without booty would that man be nor unpossessed of precious gold, who had wealth as great as the prizes Agamemnon's horses have won by their speed. And he will give seven women skilled in noble handiwork, women of Lesbos, whom on the day when you yourself took well-built Lesbos he chose out for himself from the spoil, who then in beauty surpassed all the tribes of women. These will he give you, and among them will be she whom then he took away, the daughter of Briseus; and he will furthermore swear a great oath that he never went up into her bed nor slept with her, which is the custom, O king, of men and women. All these things will be yours immediately; and if hereafter the gods grant us to lay waste the great city of Priam, do you then enter in, when we Achaeans are dividing the spoil, and heap up your ship with gold and bronze, and yourself choose twenty Trojan women who are fairest after Argive Helen. And if we return to Achaean Argos, richest of lands, you will be his son, and he will honor you like Orestes, who is reared in all abundance, his son well-beloved. Three daughters has he in his well-built hall, Chrysothemis, and Laodice, and Iphianassa; of these you may lead as your own to the house of Peleus whichever one you will, without bride price; and he will in addition give a very rich dowry, such as no man ever yet gave with his daughter. And seven well-peopled

- Καρδαμύλην Ἐνόπην τε καὶ Ἴρην ποιήεσσαν  
 Φηράς τε ζαθέας ἥδ' Ἄνθειαν βαθύλειμον,  
 καλήν τ' Αἴπειαν καὶ Πήδασον ἀμπελόεσσαν.  
 295 πᾶσαι δ' ἐγγὺς ἀλός, νέαται Πύλον ἡμαθόεντος·  
 ἐν δ' ἄνδρες ναίουσι πολύρρηνες πολυβοῦται,  
 οἳ κέ σε δωτίνησι θεὸν ὥς τιμήσουσι  
 καὶ τοι ὑπὸ σκῆπτρῳ λιπαρὰς τελέουσι θέμιστας.  
 ταῦτά κέ τοι τελέσειε μεταλλήξαντι χόλοιο.  
 300 εἰ δέ τοι Ἀτρεΐδης μὲν ἀπήχθετο κηρόθι μᾶλλον  
 αὐτὸς καὶ τοῦ δῶρα, σὺ δ' ἄλλους περ Παναχαιοὺς  
 τειρομένους ἐλέαιρε κατὰ στρατόν, οἳ σε θεὸν ὥς  
 τίσουσ'· ἦ γάρ κέ σφι μάλα μέγα κῦδος ἄροιο.  
 νῦν γάρ χ' Ἑκτορ' ἔλοισ, ἐπεὶ ἂν μάλα τοι σχεδὸν  
 ἔλθοι  
 305 λύσσαν ἔχων ὀλοήν, ἐπεὶ οὗ τινά φησιν ὁμοῖον  
 οἷ ἔμεναι Δαναῶν, οὓς ἐνθάδε νῆες ἔνεικαν."  
 Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλ-  
 λεύς·  
 "διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεῦ,  
 χρὴ μὲν δὴ τὸν μῦθον ἀπηλεγάεωσ ἀποειπεῖν,  
 310 ἦ περ δὴ φρονέω<sup>13</sup> τε καὶ ὥς τετελεσμένον ἔσται,  
 ὥς μή μοι τρύζητε παρήμενοι ἄλλοθεν ἄλλος.  
 ἐχθρὸς γάρ μοι κείνος ὁμῶς Αἰδαο πύλῃσιν  
 ὅς χ' ἕτερον μὲν κεύθῃ ἐνὶ φρεσίν, ἄλλο δὲ εἴπῃ.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν ἐρέω ὥς μοι δοκεῖ εἶναι ἄριστα.  
 315 οὐτ' ἐμέ γ' Ἀτρεΐδην Ἀγαμέμνονα πεισέμεν οἶω  
 οὐτ' ἄλλους Δαναούς, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἄρα τις χάρις ἦεν  
 μάρνασθαι δηίοισιν ἐπ' ἀνδράσι νωλεμές αἰεῖ.



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cities will he give you, Cardamyle, Enope, and grassy Hire, and sacred Pherae, and Antheia with its deep meadows, and fair Aepeia, and vine-clad Pedasus. All are near the sea, on the uttermost borders of sandy Pylos, and in them dwell men rich in flocks and rich in cattle, men who will honor you with gifts as though you were a god, and beneath your scepter will bring your ordinances to prosperous fulfillment. All this will he bring to pass for you, if you but cease from your wrath. But if the son of Atreus is too utterly hated by you at heart, himself and his gifts, yet have pity at least on the rest of the Achaeans, who are being worn down throughout the army; these will honor you as though you were a god, for surely you will win great glory in their eyes. Now you might slay Hector, since he would come very near you in his destructive rage, for he says there is no man like him among the Danaans whom the ships brought here."

In answer to him spoke swift-footed Achilles: "Zeus-born son of Laertes, Odysseus of many wiles, I must speak my words outright, exactly as I think, and as it will come to pass, so that you will not sit by me here on this side and on that and prate endlessly. For hateful in my eyes as the gates of Hades is that man who hides one thing in his mind and says another. So I will speak what seems to me to be best. Not me, I think, will Atreus' son, Agamemnon, persuade, nor yet will the other Danaans, since it is clear there was to be no thanks for warring against the foe without respite. A

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<sup>13</sup> φρονέω: κρανέω.

- ἴση μοῖρα μένουσι, καὶ εἰ μάλα τις πολεμίζου·  
 ἐν δὲ ἰῇ τιμῇ ἡμὲν κακὸς ἡδὲ καὶ ἐσθλός·  
 320 κάτθαν' ὁμῶς ὃ τ' ἀεργὸς ἀνὴρ ὃ τε πολλὰ ἐοργώς.  
 οὐδέ τί μοι περίκειται, ἐπεὶ πάθον ἄλγεα θυμῷ,  
 αἰεὶ ἐμὴν ψυχὴν παραβαλλόμενος πολεμίζειν.  
 ὥς δ' ὄρνις ἀπτῆσι νεοσσοῖσι προφέρῃσι  
 μάστακ', ἐπεὶ κε λάβῃσι, κακῶν δ' ἄρα οἱ πέλει αὐτῇ,  
 325 ὥς καὶ ἐγὼ πολλὰς μὲν ἀύπνους νύκτας ἵανον,  
 ἥματα δ' αἱματόεντα διέπρησσον πολεμίζων,  
 ἀνδράσι μαρνάμενος ὀάρων ἔνεκα σφετεράων.  
 δώδεκα δὴ σὺν νηυσὶ πόλεις ἀλάπαξ' ἀνθρώπων,  
 πεζὸς δ' ἔνδεκά φημι κατὰ Τροίην ἐρίβωλον·  
 330 τάων ἐκ πασέων κειμήλια πολλὰ καὶ ἐσθλὰ  
 ἐξελόμην, καὶ πάντα φέρων Ἀγαμέμνονι δόσκον  
 Ἀτρεΐδῃ· ὃ δ' ὀπισθε μένων παρὰ νηυσὶ θοῇσι  
 δεξάμενος διὰ παῦρα δασάσκετο, πολλὰ δ' ἔχεσκεν.  
 ἄλλα δ' ἀριστήεσσι δίδου γέρα καὶ βασιλεῦσι,  
 335 τοῖσι μὲν ἔμπεδα κεῖται, ἐμεῦ δ' ἀπὸ μούνου Ἀχαιῶν  
 εἴλετ', ἔχει δ' ἄλοχον θυμαρέα. τῇ παριαύων  
 τερπέσθω. τί δὲ δεῖ πολεμιζέμεναι Τρώεσσιν  
 Ἀργείους; τί δὲ λαὸν ἀνήγαγεν ἐνθάδ' ἀγείρας  
 Ἀτρεΐδης; ἦ οὐχ Ἑλένης ἔνεκ' ἠνκόμοιο;  
 340 ἦ μούνοι φιλέουσ' ἀλόχους μερόπων ἀνθρώπων  
 Ἀτρεΐδαι; ἐπεὶ ὅς τις ἀνὴρ ἀγαθὸς καὶ ἐχέφρων  
 τὴν αὐτοῦ φιλεῖ καὶ κήδεται, ὥς καὶ ἐγὼ τὴν  
 ἐκ θυμοῦ φίλεον, δουρικτητὴν περ ἐοῦσαν.  
 νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ ἐκ χειρῶν γέρας εἴλετο καὶ μ' ἀπάτησε,  
 345 μή μεν πειράτω ἐν εἰδότος· οὐδέ με πείσει.

like portion has he who stays back, and he who wars his best, and in one honor are held both the coward and the brave; death comes alike to the idle man and to him who works much. Nor has it brought me any profit that I suffered woes at heart, constantly staking my life in fight. Just as a bird brings to her unfledged chicks any morsel she may find, but with herself it goes ill, so was I used to watch through many a sleepless night, and bloody days I passed in battle, fighting with warriors for their women's sake. Twelve cities of men have I laid waste with my ships and by land I claim eleven throughout the fertile land of Troy; from all these I took treasures many and noble, and all would I bring and give to Agamemnon, this son of Atreus; but he, staying behind beside his swift ships, would take and apportion some small part, but keep the most. Some he gave as prizes to chief men and kings, and for them the gifts remain firm; but from me alone of the Achaeans he has taken and keeps my wife, the darling of my heart. Let him lie by her side and take his joy. But why must the Argives wage war against the Trojans? Why has he gathered and led here an army, this son of Atreus? Was it not for fair-haired Helen's sake? Do they then alone of mortal men love their wives, these sons of Atreus? Whoever is a true man, and sound of mind, loves his own and cherishes her, just as I too loved her with all my heart, though she was but the captive of my spear. But now, since he has taken from my hands my prize, and has deceived me, let him not tempt me who know him well; he will not persuade

ἀλλ', Ὀδυσσεύ, σὺν σοί τε καὶ ἄλλοισιν βασιλεῦσι  
 φραζέσθω νήεσσιν ἀλεξέμεναι δῆιον πῦρ.  
 ἦ μὲν δὴ μάλα πολλὰ πονήσατο νόσφιν ἐμείο,  
 καὶ δὴ τείχος ἔδειμε, καὶ ἤλασε τάφρον ἐπ' αὐτῷ  
 350 εὐρείαν μεγάλην, ἐν δὲ σκόλοπας κατέπηξεν·  
 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς δύναται σθένος Ἑκτορος ἀνδροφόνοιο  
 ἴσχειν. ὄφρα δ' ἐγὼ μετ' Ἀχαιοῖσιν πολέμιζον  
 οὐκ ἐθέλεσκε μάχην ἀπὸ τείχεος ὀρνύμεν Ἑκτωρ,  
 ἀλλ' ὅσον ἐς Σκαιάς τε πύλας καὶ φηγὸν ἵκανεν·  
 355 ἔνθα ποτ' οἶον ἔμιμνε, μόγις δέ μεν ἔκφυγεν ὀρμήν.  
 νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἐθέλω πολεμιζέμεν Ἑκτορι δίῳ,  
 αὔριον ἰρὰ Διὶ ρέξας καὶ πᾶσι θεοῖσι,  
 νηήσας ἐν νῆας, ἐπὴν ἄλαδε προερύσσω,  
 ὄψαι, αἶ κ' ἐθέλησθα καὶ αἶ κέν τοι τὰ μεμήλη,  
 360 ἦρι μάλ' Ἑλλήσποντον ἐπ' ἰχθυόεντα πλεύσας  
 νῆας ἐμάς, ἐν δ' ἄνδρας ἐρεσσέμεναι μεμαῶτας·  
 εἰ δέ κεν εὐπλοίην δώῃ κλυτὸς Ἐννοσίγαιος,  
 ἡματί κε τριτάτῳ Φθίην ἐρίβωλον ἰκοίμην.  
 ἔστι δέ μοι μάλα πολλά, τὰ κάλλιπον ἐνθάδε ἔρρων·  
 365 ἄλλον δ' ἐνθένδε χρυσὸν καὶ χαλκὸν ἐρυθρὸν  
 ἦδὲ γυναῖκας ἐυζώνους πολιόν τε σίδηρον  
 ἄξομαι, ἄσσο' ἔλαχόν γε· γέρας δέ μοι, ὅς περ ἔδωκεν,  
 αὐτὶς ἐφυβρίζων ἔλετο κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 Ἀτρεΐδης· τῷ πάντ' ἀγορευέμεν, ὥς ἐπιτέλλω,  
 370 ἀμφαδόν, ὄφρα καὶ ἄλλοι ἐπισκύζωνται Ἀχαιοί,  
 εἴ τινα που Δαναῶν ἔτι ἔλπεται ἐξαπατήσειν,  
 αἰὲν ἀναιδείην ἐπιειμένος. οὐδ' ἂν ἐμοί γε  
 τετλαίῃ κύνεός περ ἐὼν εἰς ὧπα ιδέσθαι.

me. But, Odysseus, together with you and the other kings let him consider how to ward from the ships consuming fire. In fact he has accomplished very many things in my absence; he has even built a wall and dug a trench hard by, wide and great, and in it he has planted stakes; but not even so can he stay the might of man-slaying Hector. So long as I was warring among the Achaeans, Hector was not minded to rouse battle far from the wall, but would come only so far as the Scaean gates and the oak tree; there once he awaited me in single combat and barely escaped my attack. But now, since I am not minded to do battle with noble Hector, tomorrow I will make sacrifice to Zeus and all the gods, and heap well my ships, when I have launched them on the sea; then you will see, if you wish and have any interest, my ships at early dawn sailing over the teeming Hellespont, and on board men eager to ply the oar; and if the great Shaker of the Earth grants me fair voyaging, on the third day I will reach deep-soiled Phthia. I have many possessions that I left on my ill-starred way here, and yet more I will bring from here, gold and ruddy bronze, and fair-girdled women and gray iron—all that fell to me by lot; but my prize—he who gave it to me has taken it back in his arrogant pride, lord Agamemnon, son of Atreus. To him declare all, just as I charge you, openly, so that other Achaeans also may be angry, if by chance he hopes to deceive yet some other of the Danaans, since he is always clothed in shamelessness. Nor would he dare—shameless though he is—to look me in the face. Neither will I take

- οὐδέ τί οἱ βουλὰς συμφράσσομαι, οὐδὲ μὲν ἔργον·  
 375 ἐκ γὰρ δὴ μ' ἀπάτησε καὶ ἤλιπεν. οὐδ' ἂν ἔτ' αὖτις  
 ἐξαπάφοιτ' ἐπέεσσιν· ἄλις δέ οἱ. ἀλλὰ ἔκηλος  
 ἐρρέτω· ἐκ γάρ οἱ φρένας εἴλετο μητίετα Ζεὺς.  
 ἐχθρὰ δέ μοι τοῦ δῶρα, τίω δέ μιν ἐν καρὸς αἵσῃ.  
 οὐδ' εἴ μοι δεκάκις τε καὶ εἰκοσάκις τόσα δοίῃ  
 380 ὅσσα τέ οἱ νῦν ἔστι, καὶ εἴ ποθεν ἄλλα γένοιτο,  
 οὐδ' ὅσ' ἐς Ὀρχομενὸν ποτινίσεται, οὐδ' ὅσα Θήβας  
 Αἰγυπτίας, ὅθι πλεῖστα δόμοις ἐν κτήματα κείμεναι,  
 αἶθ' ἐκατόμπυλοί εἰσι, διηκόσιοι δ' ἀν' ἐκάστας  
 ἀνέρες ἐξοιχνεύσι σὺν ἵπποισιν καὶ ὄχεσφιν·  
 385 οὐδ' εἴ μοι τόσα δοίῃ ὅσα ψάμαθός τε κόνις τε,  
 οὐδέ κεν ὥς ἔτι θυμὸν ἐμὸν πείσει' Ἀγαμέμνων,  
 πρὶν γ' ἀπὸ πᾶσαν ἐμοὶ δόμεναι θυμαλγέα λῶβην.  
 κούρην δ' οὐ γαμέω Ἀγαμέμνονος Ἀτρεΐδαο,  
 οὐδ' εἰ χρυσεῖη Ἀφροδίτῃ κάλλος ἐρίζοι,  
 390 ἔργα δ' Ἀθηναίῃ γλαυκῶπιδι ἰσοφαρίζοι·  
 οὐδέ μιν ὥς γαμέω· ὁ δ' Ἀχαιῶν ἄλλον ἐλέσθω,  
 ὅς τις οἷ τ' ἐπέοικε καὶ ὃς βασιλεύτερός ἐστιν.  
 ἦν γὰρ δὴ με σαῶσι θεοὶ καὶ οἴκαδ' ἵκωμαι,  
 Πηλεὺς θήν μοι ἔπειτα γυναικῆ γε μᾶσσεται<sup>14</sup> αὐτός.  
 395 πολλαὶ Ἀχαιίδες εἰσὶν ἀν' Ἑλλάδα τε Φθίην τε,  
 κοῦραι ἀριστήων, οἳ τε πτολίεθρα ῥύονται,  
 τάων ἦν κ' ἐθέλωμι φίλην ποιήσομ' ἄκοιτιν.  
 ἔνθα δέ μοι μάλα πολλὸν ἐπέσσυτο θυμὸς ἀγῆνωρ  
 γήμαντα μνηστὴν ἄλοχον, ἐικύϊαν ἄκοιτιν,  
 400 κτήμασι τέρπεσθαι τὰ γέρων ἐκτῆσατο Πηλεὺς·

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counsel with him nor do any work, for utterly he has deceived me and wronged me. Never again will he deceive me with words; this is enough for him. But let him go to his ruin at his ease, since Zeus the counselor has utterly robbed him of his mind. Hateful in my eyes are his gifts, I count them at a hair's worth. Not even if he gave me ten times and twenty times all that now he has, and if yet other things should be added to it from somewhere, not even though it were all the wealth that goes to Orchomenus, or to Thebes of Egypt, where treasures in greatest store are laid up in men's houses—Thebes which is a city of one hundred gates from each of which sally out two hundred warriors with horses and chariots—no, not even if he gave gifts as many as sand and dust, not even so will Agamemnon any more persuade my heart until he has paid the full price of all the outrage that stings my heart. And the daughter of Agamemnon, son of Atreus, I will not wed, not even though she vied in beauty with golden Aphrodite and in handiwork were the peer of flashing-eyed Athene: not even so will I wed her; let him choose another of the Achaeans who suits him better and is more kingly than I. For if the gods preserve me and I reach home, Peleus indeed will then himself seek a wife for me. Many Achaean maidens there are throughout Hellas and Phthia, daughters of chief men who guard the cities; of these whichever I choose I shall make my dear wife. Very often was my gallant heart eager to take there a wedded wife, a fitting bride, and to have joy of the possessions that the old man Peleus

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<sup>14</sup> γε μάσσεται Aristarchus: γαμέσσεται MSS.

- οὐ γὰρ ἐμοὶ ψυχῆς ἀντάξιον οὐδ' ὅσα φασὶν  
 Ἴλιον ἐκτῆσθαι, ἐν ναιόμενον πτολίεθρον,  
 τὸ πρὶν ἐπ' εἰρήνης, πρὶν ἔλθειν νῆας Ἀχαιῶν,  
 οὐδ' ὅσα λάινος οὐδὸς ἀφήτορος ἐντὸς ἔέργει,  
 405 Φοίβου<sup>15</sup> Ἀπόλλωνος, Πυθοῖ ἐνι πετρηέσση.  
 ληιστοὶ μὲν γάρ τε βόες καὶ ἵφια μῆλα,  
 κτητοὶ δὲ τρίποδες τε καὶ ἵππων ξανθὰ κάρηνα·  
 ἀνδρὸς δὲ ψυχὴ πάλιν ἔλθειν οὔτε λείσστη  
 οὔθ' ἐλετή, ἐπεὶ ἄρ κεν ἀμείψεται ἔρκος ὀδόντων.  
 410 μῆτηρ γάρ τέ μέ φησι θεὰ Θέτις ἀργυρόπεζα  
 διχθαδίας κῆρας φερέμεν θανάτοιο τέλοσδε.  
 εἰ μὲν κ' αὖθι μένων Τρώων πόλιν ἀμφιμάχωμαι,  
 ὤλετο μὲν μοι νόστος, ἀτὰρ κλέος ἄφθιτον ἔσται·  
 εἰ δέ κεν οἴκαδ' ἵκωμι φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν,  
 415 ὤλετό μοι κλέος ἐσθλόν, ἐπὶ δηρὸν δέ μοι αἰὼν  
 ἔσσεται, οὐδέ κέ μ' ὦκα τέλος θανάτοιο κιχείη.<sup>16</sup>  
 καὶ δ' ἂν τοῖς ἄλλοισιν ἐγὼ παραμυθησαίμην  
 οἴκαδ' ἀποπλείειν, ἐπεὶ οὐκέτι δήτε τέκμωρ  
 Ἰλίου αἰπυνῆς· μάλα γάρ ἐθεν εὐρύοπα Ζεὺς  
 420 χεῖρα ἐὼν ὑπερέσχε, τεθαρσῆκασι δὲ λαοί.  
 ἀλλ' ὑμεῖς μὲν ἰόντες ἀριστήεσσιν Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἀγγελίην ἀπόφασθε—τὸ γὰρ γέρας ἐστὶ γερόντων—  
 ὄφρ' ἄλλην φράζωνται ἐνὶ φρεσὶ μῆτιν ἀμείνω,  
 ἣ κέ σφιν νῆας τε σαῶ καὶ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν  
 425 νηυσὶν ἐπι γλαφυρῆς, ἐπεὶ οὐ σφισιν ἦδε γ' ἐτοίμη,  
 ἣν νῦν ἐφράσσαντο ἐμεῦ ἀπομνηνίσαντος.  
 Φοῖνιξ δ' αὖθι παρ' ἄμμι μένων κατακοιμηθήτω,  
 ὄφρα μοι ἐν νήεσσι φίλην ἐς πατρίδ' ἔπηται



had won. For in my eyes not of like worth with life is all the wealth that men say Ilios possessed, the well-peopled city, formerly, in time of peace, before the sons of the Achaeans came, nor all that the marble threshold of the Archer, Phoebus Apollo, encloses in rocky Pytho. For by pillage may cattle be had and noble sheep, and by winning, tripods and tawny horses; but that a man's spirit should come back when once it has passed the barrier of his teeth, neither pillage avails nor winning. For my mother the goddess, silver-footed Thetis, tells me that twofold fates are bearing me toward the doom of death: if I remain here and fight about the city of the Trojans, then lost is my return home, but my renown will be imperishable; but if I return home to my dear native land, lost then is my glorious renown, yet will my life long endure, and the doom of death will not come soon on me. And I would counsel you others also to sail back home; since there is no longer hope that you will win the goal of steep Ilios; for mightily does Zeus, whose voice resounds afar, hold out his hand over it, and its people are filled with courage. But go and declare my message to the chief men of the Achaeans—since that is the privilege of elders—so that they may devise some other plan in their minds better than this, one that may save their ships, and the army of the Achaeans beside the hollow ships; since this one is not at hand for them which now they have devised, because of the fierceness of my anger. But let Phoenix remain here with us and sleep, so that he may follow with me on my ships to my dear native land on the morrow,

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<sup>15</sup> Φοῖβον: νηοῦ Zenodotus.

<sup>16</sup> Line 416 was rejected by Zenodotus and Aristarchus.

αὔριον, ἣν ἐθέλησιν· ἀνάγκη δ' οὐ τί μιν ἄξω.”

- 430 Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ  
μῦθον ἀγασσάμενοι· μάλα γὰρ κρατερῶς ἀπέειπεν.  
ὁψὲ δὲ δὴ μετέειπε γέρων ἱππηλάτα Φοῖνιξ  
δάκρυ' ἀναπρήσας· περὶ γὰρ δῖε νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν  
“εἰ μὲν δὴ νόστον γε μετὰ φρεσί, φαίδιμ' Ἀχιλλεῦ,  
435 βάλλεαι, οὐδέ τι πάμπαν ἀμύνειν νηυσὶ θοῇσι  
πῦρ ἐθέλεις αἰδηλον, ἐπεὶ χόλος ἔμπεσε θυμῷ,  
πῶς ἂν ἔπειτ' ἀπὸ σείο, φίλον τέκος, αὐθι λιποίμην  
οἶος; σοὶ δέ μ' ἔπεμπε γέρων ἱππηλάτα Πηλεὺς  
ἥματι τῷ ὅτε σ' ἐκ Φθίης Ἀγαμέμνονι πέμπε  
440 νήπιον, οὗ πω εἰδόθ' ὁμοίου πυλέμοιο,  
οὐδ' ἀγορέων, ἵνα τ' ἄνδρες ἀριπρεπέες τελέθουσι.  
τοῦνεκά με προέηκε διδασκόμεναι τάδε πάντα,  
μύθων τε ῥητῆρ' ἔμεναι πρηκτῆρά τε ἔργων.  
ὥς ἂν ἔπειτ' ἀπὸ σείο, φίλον τέκος, οὐκ ἐθέλοιμι  
445 λείπεσθ', οὐδ' εἴ κέν μοι ὑποσταίῃ θεὸς αὐτὸς  
γῆρας ἀποξύσας θήσειν νέον ἡβῶοντα,  
οἶον ὅτε πρῶτον λίπον Ἑλλάδα καλλιγύναικα,  
φεύγων νείκεα πατρὸς Ἀμύντορος Ὀρμενίδαο,  
ὅς μοι παλλακίδος περιχώσατο καλλικόμοιο,  
450 τὴν αὐτὸς φιλέεσκεν, ἀτιμάζεσκε δ' ἄκοιτιν,  
μητέρ' ἐμήν. ἣ δ' αἰὲν ἐμὲ λισσέσκετο γούνων  
παλλακίδι προμιγῆναι, ἵν' ἐχθήρειε γέροντα.  
τῇ πιθόμην καὶ ἔρεξα· πατὴρ δ' ἐμὸς αὐτίκ' οἰσθεὶς  
πολλὰ κατηράτο, στυγεράς δ' ἐπεκέκλετ' Ἐρινῦς,  
455 μή ποτε γούνασιν οἷσιν ἐφέσσεσθαι φίλον υἱὸν  
ἐξ ἐμέθεν γεγαῶτα· θεοὶ δ' ἐτέλειον ἐπαράς,

if he wishes; but by force I will not take him."

So he spoke, and they all became hushed in silence, marveling at his words; for very strongly did he refuse them. But finally there spoke among them the old horseman Phoenix, bursting into tears, for greatly did he fear for the ships of the Achaeans: "If indeed it is return home, glorious Achilles, that you ponder in your mind, and you are not at all minded to ward destructive fire from the swift ships, since wrath has fallen on your heart, how should I then, dear child, be left here alone, without you? With you the old horseman Peleus sent me on the day when he sent you out from Phthia to Agamemnon, a mere child, knowing nothing as yet of evil war, nor of assemblies in which men become preeminent. For this reason he sent me to instruct you in all these things, to be both a speaker of words and a doer of deeds. So, dear child, I would not be minded to be left alone without you, not even if a god himself should undertake to strip from me my old age and render me strong in youth as on the day when first I left Hellas, the home of fair women, fleeing from strife with my father Amyntor, son of Ormenus; for he was enraged with me because of his fair-haired concubine, whom he himself ever loved, and scorned his wife, my mother. So she begged me by my knees continually, to sleep with his concubine first myself, so that the old man might be hateful in her eyes. I obeyed her and did the deed, but my father learned of this immediately and cursed me mightily, and invoked the dire Erinyes, that he should never set on his knees a dear child begotten by me; and the gods fulfilled his curse, Zeus of

- Ζεὺς τε καταχθόνιος καὶ ἐπαινὴ Περσεφόνηια.  
 τὸν μὲν ἐγὼ βούλευσα κατακτάμεν ὅξεί χαλκῷ.<sup>17</sup>  
 ἀλλὰ τις ἀθανάτων παῦσεν χόλον, ὅς ῥ' ἐνὶ θυμῷ  
 460 δῆμον θῆκε φάτιν καὶ ὀνείδεα πόλλ' ἀνθρώπων,  
 ὥς μὴ πατροφόνος μετ' Ἀχαιοῖσιν καλεοίμην.  
 ἔνθ' ἐμοὶ οὐκέτι πάμπαν ἐρητύετ' ἐν φρεσὶ θυμὸς  
 πατρὸς χωομένοιο κατὰ μέγαρα στρωφᾶσθαι.  
 ἦ μὲν πολλὰ ἔται καὶ ἀνεψιοὶ ἀμφὶς ἑόντες  
 465 αὐτοῦ λισσόμενοι κατερήτνουν ἐν μεγάροισι,  
 πολλὰ δὲ ἴφια μῆλα καὶ εἰλίποδας ἑλικας βούς  
 ἔσφαζον, πολλοὶ δὲ σύες θαλέθοντες ἀλοιφῇ  
 εὐόμενοι τανύοντο διὰ φλογὸς Ἡφαίστοιο,  
 πολλὸν δ' ἐκ κεράμων μέθυ πίνετο τοῖο γέροντος.  
 470 εἰνάνυχες δέ μοι ἀμφ' αὐτῷ παρὰ νύκτας ἵαον·  
 οἱ μὲν ἀμειβόμενοι φυλακὰς ἔχον, οὐδέ ποτ' ἔσβη  
 πῦρ, ἕτερον μὲν ὑπ' αἰθούσῃ εὐερκέος αὐλῆς,  
 ἄλλο δ' ἐνὶ προδόμῳ, πρόσθεν θαλάμοιο θυράων.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ δεκάτῃ μοι ἐπήλυθε νύξ ἐρεβεννή,  
 475 καὶ τότε ἐγὼ θαλάμοιο θύρας πυκινῶς ἀραρυίας  
 ῥήξας ἐξῆλθον, καὶ ὑπέρθορον ἐρκίον αὐλῆς  
 ῥεία, λαθὼν φύλακας τ' ἄνδρας δμῳάς τε γυναῖκας.  
 φεῦγον ἔπειτ' ἀπάνευθε δι' Ἑλλάδος εὐρυχόροιο,  
 Φθίην δ' ἐξικόμην ἐριβώλακα, μητέρα μῆλων,  
 480 ἐς Πηλῆα ἄναχθ'. ὁ δέ με πρόφρων ὑπέδεκτο,  
 καί μ' ἐφίλησ' ὥς εἴ τε πατὴρ ὃν παῖδα φιλήσῃ  
 μοῦνον τηλύγετον πολλοῖσιν ἐπὶ κτεάτεσσι,  
 καί μ' ἀφνειὸν ἔθηκε, πολὺν δέ μοι ὥπασε λαόν·  
 ναῖον δ' ἐσχατιὴν Φθίης, Δολόπεσσιν ἀνάσσω.

the nether world and dread Persephone. Then I formed a plan to slay him with the sharp sword, but some one of the immortals stayed my anger, bringing to my heart the voice of the people and the many revilings of men, so that I should not be called a father-slayer among the Achaeans. Then the heart in my breast could in no way any longer keep me living in the halls of my angered father. My fellows to be sure and my kinspeople stood around me and with many prayers sought to keep me there in the halls, and many noble sheep and sleek cattle of shambling gait did they slaughter, and many swine, rich with fat, were stretched to singe over the flame of Hephaestus, and wine in plenty was drunk from the jars of that old man. For nine nights around me they watched the night through; in turn they kept watch, nor were the fires quenched, one beneath the portico of the well-fenced court, and one in the porch in front of the door of my chamber. But when the tenth dark night had come on me, then it was I burst the closely fitted doors of my chamber and easily leapt the fence of the court, unseen by the watchmen and the slave women. Then I fled far away through spacious Hellas, and came to deep-soiled Phthia, mother of flocks, to king Peleus; and he received me eagerly, and loved me as a father loves his only well-beloved son, who is heir to great possessions; and he made me rich and gave many people to me, and I dwelt on the furthestmost border of Phthia, ruling over the

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<sup>17</sup> Lines 458–461, not found in the MSS. of the *Iliad*, are given by Plutarch, *Moralia* 26 f.

- 485 καί σε τοσοῦτον ἔθηκα, θεοῖς ἐπιείκελ' Ἀχιλλεῦ,  
 ἐκ θυμοῦ φιλέων, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἐθέλεσκες ἄμ' ἄλλω  
 οὔτ' ἐς δαῖτ' ἵεναι οὔτ' ἐν μεγάροισι πάσασθαι,  
 πρίν γ' ὅτε δή σ' ἐπ' ἐμοῖσιν ἐγὼ γούνεσσι καθίσσας  
 ὄψον τ' ἄσαιμι προταμῶν καὶ οἶνον ἐπισχών.  
 490 πολλάκι μοι κατέδενσας ἐπὶ στήθεσσι χιτῶνα  
 οἶνον ἀποβλύζων ἐν νηπιέῃ ἀλεγεινῇ.  
 ὥς ἐπὶ σοὶ μάλα πόλλ' ἔπαθον καὶ πόλλ' ἐμόγησα,  
 τὰ φρονέων, ὃ μοι οὔ τι θεοὶ γόνον ἐξετέλειον  
 ἐξ ἐμεῦ. ἀλλὰ σὲ παῖδα, θεοῖς ἐπιείκελ' Ἀχιλλεῦ,  
 495 ποιεύμην, ἵνα μοί ποτ' ἀεικέα λοιγὸν ἀμύνης.  
 ἀλλ', Ἀχιλεῦ, δάμασον θυμὸν μέγαν· οὐδέ τί σε χρὴ  
 νηλεὲς ἦτορ ἔχειν· στρεπτοὶ δέ τε καὶ θεοὶ αὐτοί,  
 τῶν περ καὶ μείζων ἀρετὴ τιμὴ τε βίη τε.  
 καὶ μὲν τοὺς θυέεσσι καὶ εὐχολῆς ἀγανῆσι  
 500 λοιβῇ τε κνίσῃ τε παρατρωπῶσ' ἄνθρωποι  
 λισσόμενοι, ὅτε κέν τις ὑπερβῇ καὶ ἀμάρτη.  
 καὶ γάρ τε Λιταί εἰσι Διὸς κούραι μέγαλοιο,  
 χωλαί τε ῥυσαί τε παραβλῶπές τ' ὀφθαλμῷ,  
 αἱ ῥά τε καὶ μετόπισθ' Ἄτης ἀλέγουσι κιούσαι.  
 505 ἡ δ' Ἄτη σθεναρὴ τε καὶ ἀρτίπος, οὔνεκα πάσας  
 πολλὸν ὑπεκπροθέει, φθάνει δέ τε πᾶσαν ἐπ' αἶαν  
 βλάπτουσ' ἀνθρώπους· αἱ δ' ἐξακέονται ὀπίσσω.  
 ὃς μὲν τ' αἰδέσεται κούρας Διὸς ἄσσον ἰούσας,  
 τὸν δὲ μέγ' ὤνησαν καὶ τ' ἔκλυον εὐχομένοιο·  
 510 ὃς δέ κ' ἀνήνηται καὶ τε στερεῶς ἀποείπη,  
 λίσσονται δ' ἄρα ταί γε Δία Κρονίωνα κιούσαι  
 τῷ Ἄτην ἄμ' ἔπεσθαι, ἵνα βλαφθεὶς ἀποτίσῃ.

## BOOK 9

Dolopians. And I reared you to be such as you are, godlike Achilles, loving you from my heart; for with no other would you go to the feast or take meat in the hall, till I had set you on my knees and given you your fill of the savory morsel cut first for you, and had put the wine cup to your lips. Often did you wet the tunic on my chest, sputtering out the wine in your childish helplessness. So have I suffered much for you and toiled much, ever mindful of the fact that the gods would in no way grant me a son born of me myself. But it was you I sought to make my son, godlike Achilles, so that you may hereafter save me from loathsome destruction. So Achilles, master your proud spirit; nor must you have a pitiless heart. Even the very gods can bend, though theirs is even greater excellence and honor and might. These by incense and reverent vows and libations and the savor of sacrifice do men turn from wrath with supplication, when any man transgresses and errs. For Prayers there are as well, the daughters of great Zeus, halting and wrinkled and of eyes askance,<sup>1</sup> and they are ever mindful to follow in the steps of Blindness. But Blindness is strong and fleet of foot, so she far outruns them all, and goes before them over all the earth making men to fall, and Prayers follow after, seeking to heal the hurt. Now him who will respect the daughters of Zeus, when they draw near, him they greatly benefit, and hear him when he prays; but if a man denies them and stubbornly refuses, then they go and beg Zeus, son of Cronos, that Blindness may follow that man so that he may fall and pay full recompense. But, Achilles, see to it

<sup>1</sup> Because the offender dares not look in the face of the one he has wronged. M.

- ἀλλ', Ἀχιλεῦ, πόρε καὶ σὺ Διὸς κούρησιν ἔπεσθαι  
 τιμὴν, ἣ τ' ἄλλων περ ἐπιγνάμπει νόον ἐσθλῶν.  
 515 εἰ μὲν γὰρ μὴ δῶρα φέροι, τὰ δ' ὄπισθ' ὀνομάζοι  
 Ἀτρεΐδης, ἀλλ' αἰὲν ἐπιζαφελῶς χαλεπαῖνοι,  
 οὐκ ἂν ἐγὼ γέ σε μῆνιν ἀπορρίψαντα κελοίμην  
 Ἀργείοισιν ἀμυνέμεναι χατέουσὶ περ ἔμψης.  
 νῦν δ' ἅμα τ' αὐτίκα πολλὰ διδοῖ, τὰ δ' ὄπισθεν  
 ὑπέστη,  
 520 ἄνδρας δὲ λίσσεσθαι ἐπιπροέηκεν ἀρίστους  
 κρινάμενος κατὰ λαὸν Ἀχαικόν, οἳ τε σοὶ αὐτῷ  
 φίλτατοι Ἀργείων· τῶν μὴ σύ γε μῦθον ἐλέγξης  
 μηδὲ πόδας· πρὶν δ' οὔ τι νεμεσσητὸν κεχολῶσθαι.  
 οὔτω καὶ τῶν πρόσθεν ἐπευθόμεθα κλέα ἀνδρῶν  
 525 ἡρώων, ὅτε κέν τιν' ἐπιζάφελος χόλος ἵκοι·  
 δωρητοὶ τε πέλοντο παράρρητοί τ' ἐπέεσσι.  
 μέμνημαι τόδε ἔργον ἐγὼ πάλαι, οὔ τι νέον γε,  
 ὡς ἦν· ἐν δ' ὑμῖν ἐρέω πάντεσσι φίλοισι.  
 Κουρῆτές τ' ἐμάχοντο καὶ Αἰτωλοὶ μενεχάρμαι  
 530 ἀμφὶ πόλιν Καλυδῶνα καὶ ἀλλήλους ἐνάριζον,  
 Αἰτωλοὶ μὲν ἀμυνόμενοι Καλυδῶνος ἐραννῆς,  
 Κουρῆτες δὲ διαπραθέειν μεμαῶτες Ἴαρι.  
 καὶ γὰρ τοῖσι κακὸν χρυσόθρονος Ἄρτεμις ὦρσε,  
 χωσαμένη ὃ οἱ οὔ τι θαλύσια γουνῷ ἀλῶης  
 535 Οἶνεὺς ἔρξ'. ἄλλοι δὲ θεοὶ δαίνυνθ' ἐκατόμβας,  
 οἷη δ' οὐκ ἔρρεξε Διὸς κούρη μέγαλοιο·  
 ἣ λάθεται ἣ οὐκ ἐνόησεν· ἀάσατο δὲ μέγα θυμῷ.  
 ἣ δὲ χολωσαμένη δῖον γένος ἰοχέαιρα  
 ὦρσεν ἔπι χλούνην σὺν ἄγριον ἀργιόδοντα,



that honor attends on the daughters of Zeus, such as bends the minds of all men who are noble. For if the son of Atreus were not to offer you gifts and tell of still others hereafter, but were ever furiously angry, I would not be the one to ask you to cast aside your wrath and assist the Argives, though their need is great. But now he offers you many gifts immediately, and has promised you more hereafter, and has sent warriors to beg you, choosing those who are best throughout the army of the Achaeans, and who to you yourself are dearest of the Argives; do not scorn their words, nor their coming here, though before now no man could blame you for being angry. Likewise we have heard the glorious deeds of men of old who were warriors, when furious wrath came on one of them; won might they be by gifts, and turned aside by words. Myself I recall this deed of past days and not of yesterday, how it was; and I will tell it among you who are all my friends. The Curetes once were fighting and the Aetolians firm in fight around the city of Calydon, and were slaying one another, the Aetolians defending lovely Calydon and the Curetes eager to waste it utterly in war. For on their people had Artemis of the golden throne sent an evil thing, angered that Oeneus did not offer her the first fruits of the harvest in his rich orchard plot; the other gods feasted on hecatombs, and it was to the daughter of great Zeus alone that he did not offer, whether perhaps he forgot, or did not notice; and he was greatly blinded at heart. At that the Archer goddess, the child of Zeus, grew angry and sent against him a fierce wild

- 540 ὅς κακὰ πόλλ' ἔρδεσκειν ἔθων Οἰνῆος ἀλωήν·  
 πολλὰ δ' ὃ γε προθέλυμνα χαμαὶ βάλε δένδρεα μακρὰ  
 αὐτῇσιν ρίζησι καὶ αὐτοῖς ἄνθεσι μήλων.  
 τὸν δ' υἱὸς Οἰνῆος ἀπέκτεινεν Μελέαγρος,  
 πολλέων ἐκ πολίων θηρήτορας ἄνδρας ἀγείρας  
 545 καὶ κύνας· οὐ μὲν γάρ κε δάμη παύροισι βροτοῖσι·  
 τόστος ἔην, πολλοὺς δὲ πυρῆς ἐπέβησ' ἀλεγεινῆς.  
 ἣ δ' ἀμφ' αὐτῷ θῆκε πολὺν κέλαδον καὶ αὐτήν,  
 ἀμφὶ συνὸς κεφαλῇ καὶ δέρματι λαχνήεντι,  
 Κουρήτων τε μεσηγὺ καὶ Αἰτωλῶν μεγαθύμων.  
 550 ὄφρα μὲν οὖν Μελέαγρος ἀρηίφιλος πολέμιζε,  
 τόφρα δὲ Κουρήτεσσι κακῶς ἦν, οὐδ' ἐδύναντο<sup>18</sup>  
 τείχεος ἔκτοσθεν μίμνειν πολέες περ ἑόντες.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ Μελέαγρον ἔδν χόλος, ὅς τε καὶ ἄλλων  
 οἰδάνει ἐν στήθεσσι νόον πύκα περ φρονεόντων,  
 555 ἦ τοι ὁ μητρὶ φίλῃ Ἀλθαίῃ χωόμενος κῆρ  
 κείμετο παρὰ μνηστῇ ἀλόχῳ, καλῇ Κλεοπάτρῃ,  
 κούρῃ Μαρπήσσης καλλισφύρου Εὐηνίνης  
 Ἰδεώ θ', ὅς κάρτιστος ἐπιχθονίων γένετ' ἀνδρῶν  
 τῶν τότε, καὶ ῥα ἄνακτος ἐναντίον εἴλετο τόξον  
 560 Φοῖβον Ἀπόλλωνος καλλισφύρου εἵνεκα νύμφης.  
 τὴν δὲ τότε ἐν μεγάροισι πατὴρ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ  
 Ἀλκυνόην καλέεσκον ἐπώνυμον, οὐνεκ' ἄρ' αὐτῇ

<sup>18</sup> οὐδ' ἐδύναντο: οὐδ' ἐθέλεσκον Aristophanes.

<sup>2</sup> Meleager was son of Oeneus, king of the Aetolians, and Althaea, daughter of Thestius, king of the Curetes. After the slay-

boar, white of tusk, that worked much evil, wasting the orchard plot of Oeneus; many a tall tree did it uproot and cast on the ground, root and apple blossom and all. But the boar Meleager, son of Oeneus, slew, when he had gathered huntsmen and hounds from many cities; for not by few men could the boar have been slain, so huge was he; and many a man he set on the grievous pyre. But about his carcass the goddess set much clamor and shouting concerning his head and shaggy hide, between the Curetes and the great-hearted Aetolians. Now so long as Meleager, dear to Ares, warred, so long it went ill with the Curetes, nor were they able to remain outside the wall, though they were many. But when wrath entered into Meleager, wrath that makes the mind swell in the breasts also of others, even of the wise, he then, angry at heart with his dear mother<sup>2</sup> Althaea, lay idle beside his wedded wife, the fair Cleopatra, daughter of Evenus' child, Marpessa of the fair ankles, and of Idas, who was mightiest of men who were then on the face of earth and who took up his bow against the king Phoebus Apollo for the sake of the fair-ankled maid.<sup>3</sup> Cleopatra of old in their halls had her father and honored mother called Halcyone by name, because the

ing of the wild boar that wasted Calydon, strife arose between Meleager and his mother's brothers, because they had taken from Atalanta the spoils of the boar which Meleager had given to her; and Meleager slew them. For this he was cursed by his mother. M.

<sup>3</sup> Idas had carried away Marpessa from her father Evenus, but Apollo sought to take her from Idas, whereupon the mortal dared to clash with the god. But Zeus bade Marpessa choose between the two, and she chose Idas. M.

- μήτηρ ἀλκυνόος πολυπενθέος οἶτον ἔχουσα  
 κλαῖεν ὃ μιν ἐκάεργος ἀνήρπασε Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων.  
 565 τῇ ὃ γε παρκατέλεκτο χόλον θυμαλγέα πέσσων,  
 ἐξ ἁρέων μητρὸς κεχολωμένος, ἧ ῥα θεοῖσι  
 πόλλ' ἀχέουσ' ἡρᾶτο κασιγνήτοιο φόνοιο,  
 πολλὰ δὲ καὶ γαῖαν πολυφόρβην χερσὶν ἀλοία  
 κικλήσκουσ' Ἀΐδην καὶ ἐπαινὴν Περσεφόνειαν,  
 570 πρόχινυ καθεζομένη, δεύοντο δὲ δάκρυσι κόλποι,  
 παιδὶ δόμεν θάνατον· τῆς δ' ἡεροφοῖτις Ἐρινὺς  
 ἔκλυεν ἐξ Ἑρέβесφιν, ἀμείλιχον ἦτορ ἔχουσα.  
 τῶν δὲ τάχ' ἀμφὶ πύλας ὄμαδος καὶ δοῦπος ὀρώρει  
 πύργων βαλλομένων· τὸν δὲ λίσσοντο γέροντες  
 575 Αἰτωλῶν, πέμπον δὲ θεῶν ἱερῆας ἀρίστους,  
 ἐξελθεῖν καὶ ἀμῦναι, ὑποσχόμενοι μέγα δῶρον·  
 ὁππόθι πιότατον πεδίον Καλυδῶνος ἐραννῆς,  
 ἔνθα μιν ἦνωγον τέμενος περικαλλὲς ἐλέσθαι  
 πεντηκοντόγνυν, τὸ μὲν ἡμῖσιν οἶνοπέδοιο,  
 580 ἡμῖσιν δὲ ψιλὴν ἄροσιν πεδίοιο ταμέσθαι.  
 πολλὰ δέ μιν λιτάνευε γέρων ἱππηλάτα Οἰνεὺς  
 οὐδοῦ ἐπεμβεβαῶς ὑψηρεφέος θαλάμοιο,  
 σείων κολλητὰς σανίδας, γουνούμενος υἱόν·  
 πολλὰ δὲ τόν γε κασίγνηται καὶ πότνια μήτηρ  
 585 ἐλλίσσονθ'· ὃ δὲ μᾶλλον ἀναίνετο· πολλὰ δ' ἑταῖροι,  
 οἱ οἱ κεδνότατοι καὶ φίλτατοι ἦσαν ἀπάντων·  
 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς τοῦ θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ἔπειθον,  
 πρίν γ' ὅτε δῇ θάλαμος πύκ' ἐβάλλετο, τοῖ δ' ἐπὶ  
 πύργων  
 βαῖνον Κουρήτες καὶ ἐνέπρηθον μέγα ἄστυ.

mother herself, in a plight like that of the halcyon bird of many sorrows,<sup>4</sup> wept because Apollo who works from afar had snatched her child away. By her side lay Meleager nursing his bitter anger, angered because of his mother's curses; for she prayed earnestly to the gods, being grieved for her brother's slaying; and furthermore earnestly beat the all-nurturing earth with her hands as she knelt and wetted the folds of her bosom with tears, calling on Hades and dread Persephone to bring death on her son; and the Erinys that walks in darkness heard her from Erebus, she of the ungentle heart. Soon the din of the foe arose about their gates, and the noise of the battering of walls, and Meleager the elders of the Aetolians begged, sending to him the best of the priests of the gods, that he should come out and aid them, and they promised him a great gift; they commanded that, where the plain of lovely Calydon was fattest, there he was to choose a beautiful tract of fifty acres, the half of it vineland, and the half clear plough land, to be cut out of the plain. And earnestly the old horseman Oeneus begged him, standing on the threshold of his high-roofed chamber, and shaking the jointed doors, begging his son, and earnestly too did his sisters and his lady mother beg him—but he denied them still more—and earnestly his comrades who were truest and dearest to him of all; yet not even so could they persuade the heart in his breast, until at last his chamber was being hotly battered, and the Curetes were mounting on the walls and firing the

<sup>4</sup> The mother, stricken with grief at the loss of her daughter, is likened to the kingfisher (*ἀλκυών*), whose plaintive note seemed to the ancients the expression of desolate sadness. Hence the name Halcyone was given to the daughter. M.

- 590 καὶ τότε δὴ Μελέαγρον εὖζωνος παράκοιτις  
 λίσσεται ὀδυρομένη, καὶ οἱ κατέλεξεν ἅπαντα  
 κήδε', ὅσ' ἀνθρώποισι πέλει τῶν ἄστν ἀλώη·  
 ἄνδρας μὲν κτείνουσι, πόλιν δέ τε πῦρ ἀμαθύνει,  
 τέκνα δέ τ' ἄλλοι<sup>19</sup> ἄγουσι βαθυζώνους τε γυναῖκας.
- 595 τοῦ δ' ὠρίνετο θυμὸς ἀκούοντος κακὰ ἔργα,  
 βῆ δ' ἰέναι, χροὶ δ' ἔντε' ἐδύσετο παμφανόωντα.  
 ὥς ὁ μὲν Αἰτωλοῖσιν ἀπήμυνεν κακὸν ἡμαρ  
 εἶξας ᾧ θυμῷ· τῷ δ' οὐκέτι δῶρ' ἐτέλεσσαν  
 πολλά τε καὶ χαρίεντα, κακὸν δ' ἤμυνε καὶ αὐτως.
- 600 ἀλλὰ σὺ μή μοι ταῦτα νόει φρεσί, μηδέ σε δαίμων  
 ἐνταῦθα τρέψειε, φίλος· κάκιον δέ κεν εἴη  
 νηυσὶν καιομένησιν ἀμυνέμεν· ἀλλ' ἐπὶ δώρων  
 ἔρχεο· ἴσον γάρ σε θεῷ τίσουσιν Ἀχαιοί.  
 εἰ δέ κ' ἄτερ δώρων πόλεμον φθισήνορα δύης,
- 605 οὐκέθ' ὁμῶς τιμῆς ἔσσαι πόλεμόν περ ἀλαλκῶν.”  
 Τὸν δ' ἀπαμβρόμενος προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλ-  
 λεύς·  
 “Φοῖνιξ, ἄττα γεραιέ, διοτρεφές, οὐ τί με ταύτης  
 χρεὼ τιμῆς· φρονέω δὲ τετιμῆσθαι Διὸς αἴση,  
 ἢ μ' ἔξει παρὰ νηυσὶ κορωνίσιν, εἰς ὃ κ' αὐτμῇ  
 610 ἐν στήθεσσι μένη καί μοι φίλα γούνατ' ὀρώρη.  
 ἄλλο δέ τοι ἐρέω, σὺ δ' ἐνὶ φρεσὶ βάλλεο σῆσι·  
 μή μοι σύγχει θυμὸν ὀδυρόμενος καὶ ἀχεύων,<sup>20</sup>  
 Ἀτρεΐδῃ ἥρωι φέρων χάριν· οὐδέ τί σε χρή  
 τὸν φιλέειν, ἵνα μή μοι ἀπέχθαι φιλέοντι.
- 615 καλὸν τοι σὺν ἐμοὶ τὸν κήδειν ὅς κ' ἐμὲ κήδη.  
 ἴσον ἐμοὶ βασίλευε καὶ ἡμισυ μείρεο τιμῆς.

great city. Then it was that his fair-belted wife begged Meleager with wailing, and told him all the woes that come on men whose city is taken; the men are slain and the city is wasted by fire, and their children and low-belted women are led captive by strangers. Then his heart was stirred, as he heard the evil tale, and he set out to go, and put on his body his gleaming armor. Thus did he ward from the Aetolians the day of evil, yielding to his own heart; and to him then they paid not the gifts, many and pleasing; yet even so he warded evil from them. But you, dear boy, let me not see you thus minded in your thoughts, and do not let a god turn you into this path; it would be a harder task to save the ships when they are already burning. But come, while yet gifts may be had; the Achaeans will honor you like a god. But if without gifts you enter into man-destroying battle, you will not then be in like honor, even though you may ward off the war."

In answer to him spoke Achilles, swift of foot: "Phoenix, old sir, my father, nurtured by Zeus, in no way have I need of this honor: honored I have been, I think, by the dispensation of Zeus, which will be mine among the beaked ships so long as the breath remains in my breast and my knees are quick. And another thing I will tell you, and do you lay it to heart; seek not to confuse my heart by weeping and sorrowing, doing a favor to the warrior, son of Atreus; you must not love that man, lest you be hated by me who love you. A good thing it is if with me you should distress the one who distresses me. Be king equally with me, and share

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<sup>19</sup> τ' ἄλλοι: δῆλοι Zenodotus.

<sup>20</sup> ὀδυρόμενος καὶ ἀχέων: ἐνὶ στήθεσσιν ἀχέων Aristarchus; ὀδυρόμενος κινυρίζων Zenodotus.

οὔτοι δ' ἀγγελέουσι, σὺ δ' αὐτόθι λέξεο μίμνων  
 εὐνῇ ἐνι μαλακῇ· ἅμα δ' ἡοῖ φαινομένηφι  
 φρασσόμεθ' ἢ κε νεώμεθ' ἐφ' ἡμέτερ' ἢ κε μένωμεν.”

620 Ἦ, καὶ Πατρόκλῳ ὃ γ' ἐπ' ὀφρύσι νεῦσε σιωπῇ  
 Φοίνικι στορέσαι πυκινὸν λέχος, ὄφρα τάχιστα  
 ἐκ κλισίης νόστοιο μεδοίατο. τοῖσι δ' ἄρ' Αἴας  
 ἀντίθεος Τελαμωνιάδης μετὰ μῦθον ἔειπε·

“διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεύ,

625 ἴομεν· οὐ γάρ μοι δοκείι μῦθοιο τελευτῇ  
 τῇδὲ γ' ὁδῷ κρανέεσθαι· ἀπαγγεῖλαι δὲ τάχιστα  
 χρὴ μῦθον Δαναοῖσι καὶ οὐκ ἀγαθόν περ ἔοντα,  
 οἳ πον νῦν ἔαται ποτιδέγμενοι. αὐτὰρ Ἀχιλλεὺς  
 ἄγριον ἐν στήθεσσι θέτο μεγαλήτορα θυμόν,

630 σχέτλιος, οὐδὲ μετατρέπεται φιλότητος ἐταίρων  
 τῆς ἧ μιν παρὰ νηυσὶν ἐτίομεν ἔξοχον ἄλλων,  
 νηλῆς· καὶ μέν τίς τε κασιγνήτοιο φονῆος<sup>21</sup>  
 ποινὴν ἧ οὐ παιδὸς ἐδέξατο τεθνηῶτος·

καί ῥ' ὁ μὲν ἐν δῆμῳ μένει αὐτοῦ πόλλ' ἀποτίσας,  
 635 τοῦ δὲ τ' ἐρητύεται κραδίη καὶ θυμὸς ἀγῆνωρ  
 ποινὴν δεξαμένῳ· σοὶ δ' ἄλληκτόν τε κακόν τε  
 θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι θεοὶ θέσαν εἵνεκα κούρης  
 οἷης· νῦν δέ τοι ἐπτὰ παρίσχομεν ἔξοχ' ἀρίστας,  
 ἄλλα τε πόλλ' ἐπὶ τῇσι· σὺ δ' ἴλαον ἔνθεο θυμόν,

640 αἰδεοσσαι δὲ μέλαθρον· ὑπωρόφιοι δέ τοι εἶμεν  
 πληθύνος ἐκ Δαναῶν, μέμαμεν δέ τοι ἔξοχον ἄλλων  
 κῆδιστοί τ' ἔμεναι καὶ φίλτατοι, ὅσσοι Ἀχαιοί.”

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλ-  
 εύς·



the half of my honor. And these men will bear my message, but you remain here and lie down on a soft bed, and at break of day we will take counsel whether to return to our own affairs or to remain here."

He spoke and to Patroclus nodded with his brow in silence that he should spread for Phoenix a thick bed, so that the others might immediately think of going back from the hut. But among them Aias, the godlike son of Telamon, spoke, saying: "Zeus-born son of Laertes, Odysseus of many wiles, let us go, for the fulfillment of the charge laid on us will not, I think, come to pass by our coming here; we must quickly report these words, though they are not good, to the Danaans, who, I imagine, now sit awaiting them. But Achilles has worked up to fury the proud heart within him, hard man, nor does he regard the love of his comrades with which we honored him among the ships above all others—pitiless one! A man accepts recompense even from the slayer of his brother, or for his dead son; and the slayer remains in his own land if he pays a great price, and the kinsman's heart and proud spirit are restrained by the taking of compensation. But as for you, the gods have put in your breast a heart that is obdurate and evil because of one girl only; but we now offer you seven, far the best that there are, and many other gifts besides; so make your heart gracious, and respect your hall; for under your roof have we come from the mass of the Danaans, and we are eager to be nearest to you and dearest beyond all the other Achaeans."

In answer to him spoke Achilles, swift of foot: "Aias,

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<sup>21</sup> φονῆος: φόνουιο.

- “Αἴαν διογενὲς Τελαμώνιε, κοίρανε λαῶν,  
 645 πάντα τί μοι κατὰ θυμὸν εἰείσαιο μνθῆσασθαι·  
 ἀλλὰ μοι οἰδάνεται κραδίη χόλῳ, ὅπποτε κείνων  
 μνήσομαι, ὥς μ’ ἀσύφηλον ἐν Ἀργείοισιν ἔρεξεν  
 Ἀτρεΐδης, ὥς εἴ τιν’ ἀτίμητον μετανάστην.  
 ἀλλ’ ὑμεῖς ἔρχεσθε καὶ ἀγγελίην ἀπόφασθε·  
 650 οὐ γὰρ πρὶν πολέμοιο μεδήσομαι αἱματόεντος,  
 πρὶν γ’ υἱὸν Πριάμοιο δαΐφρονος, Ἑκτορα δῖον,  
 Μυρμιδόνων ἐπὶ τε κλισίας καὶ νῆας ἰκέσθαι  
 κτείνοντ’ Ἀργείους, κατὰ τε σμῦξαι πυρὶ νῆας.  
 ἀμφὶ δέ τοι τῇ ἐμῇ κλισίῃ καὶ νηὶ μελαίνῃ  
 655 Ἑκτορα καὶ μεμαῶτα μάχης σχήσεσθαι οἴω.”  
 Ὡς ἔφαθ’, οἱ δὲ ἕκαστος ἐλὼν δέπας ἀμφικύπελλον  
 σπείσαντες παρὰ νῆας ἴσαν πάλιν· ἦρχε δ’ Ὀδυσ-  
 σεύς.  
 Πάτροκλος δ’ ἐτάροισιν ἰδὲ δμῳῇσι κέλευσε  
 Φοίνικι στορέσαι πυκινὸν λέχος ὅττι τάχιστα.  
 660 αἱ δ’ ἐπιπειθόμεναι στόρεσαν λέχος ὥς ἐκέλευσε,<sup>22</sup>  
 κώεά τε ῥῆγός τε λίνιοί τε λεπτὸν ἄωτον.  
 ἔνθ’ ὁ γέρων κατέλεκτο καὶ Ἡῶ δῖαν ἔμιμνεν.  
 αὐτὰρ Ἀχιλλεὺς εὗδε μυχῷ κλισίης εὐπήκτου·  
 τῷ δ’ ἄρα παρκατέλεκτο γυνή, τήν<sup>23</sup> Λεσβόθεν ἦγε,  
 665 Φόρβαντος θυγάτηρ, Διομήδη καλλιπάρῃος.  
 Πάτροκλος δ’ ἐτέρωθεν ἐλέξατο· παρ δ’ ἄρα καὶ τῷ  
 Ἴφιδι ἐύζωνος, τήν οἱ πόρε δῖος Ἀχιλλεὺς  
 Σκῦρον ἐλὼν αἰπείαν, Ἐνυῆος πτολίεθρον.  
 Οἱ δ’ ὅτε δὴ κλισίῃσιν ἐν Ἀτρεΐδαο γένοντο,  
 670 τοὺς μὲν ἄρα χρυσέοισι κυπέλλοις υἷες Ἀχαιῶν

sprung from Zeus, son of Telamon, lord of men, all this you seem to speak almost after my own heart; but my heart swells with wrath when I think of this, how the son of Atreus has worked an indignity on me among the Argives, as though I were some refugee who had no rights. But you all go and declare my message, for I will not sooner think of bloody war until battle-minded Priam's son, noble Hector, has come to the huts and ships of the Myrmidons, as he slays the Argives, and has burned the ships with fire. But around my hut and my black ship I think that Hector will be stayed, eager though he be for battle."

So he spoke, and they took each man a two-handled cup and, when they had poured wine, went back along the lines of ships, and Odysseus led. But Patroclus told his comrades and the handmaids to spread a thick bed for Phoenix as quickly as possible; and they obeyed, and spread the bed as he told them, fleeces and a rug and soft fabric of linen. There the old man lay down and waited for bright Dawn. But Achilles slept in the innermost part of the well-built hut, and by his side lay a woman he had brought from Lesbos, the daughter of Phorbas, fair-cheeked Diomedes. And Patroclus lay down on the opposite side, and by him likewise lay fair-belted Iphis, whom noble Achilles had given him when he took steep Scyros, the city of Enyeus.

But when they had come to the huts of the son of Atreus, the sons of the Achaeans stood up on this side and

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<sup>22</sup> ὥς ἐκέλευσε: ἐγκονέουσai Zenodotus.

<sup>23</sup> τῷ δ' ἄρα παρκατέλεκτο γυνή, τήν: τῷ δὲ γυνὴ παρέλεκτο Κάειρ' ἦν Zenodotus.

δειδέχατ' ἄλλοθεν ἄλλος ἀνασταδόν, ἔκ τ' ἐρέοντο·  
 πρῶτος δ' ἐξερέεινεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 “εἴπ' ἄγε μ', ὦ πολύαιν' Ὀδυσσεῦ, μέγα κῦδος Ἀχαιῶν,  
 ἧ ῥ' ἐθέλει νήεσσιν ἀλεξέμεναι δῆιον πῦρ,

675 ἧ ἀπέειπε, χόλος δ' ἔτ' ἔχει μεγαλήτορα θυμόν;”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ κύδιστε, ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγάμεμνον,  
 κείνός γ' οὐκ ἐθέλει σβέσσαι χόλον, ἀλλ' ἔτι μᾶλλον  
 πιμπλάνεται μένεος, σὲ δ' ἀναίνεται ἡδὲ σὰ δῶρα.

680 αὐτόν σε φράζεσθαι ἐν Ἀργείοισιν ἄνωγεν  
 ὅπως κεν νηάς τε σαῶς καὶ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν·  
 αὐτὸς δ' ἠπείλησεν ἅμ' ἡοῖ φαινομένηφι  
 νῆας ἐυσσέλμους ἅλαδ' ἐλκέμεν ἀμφιελίσσας.  
 καὶ δ' ἂν τοῖς ἄλλοισιν ἔφη παραμυθήσασθαι

685 οἴκαδ' ἀποπλείειν, ἐπεὶ οὐκέτι δῆετε τέκμωρ  
 Ἰλίου αἰπυνῆς· μάλα γάρ ἐθεν εὐρύοπα Ζεὺς  
 χεῖρα ἔην ὑπερέσχε, τεθαρσῆκασι δὲ λαοί.  
 ὥς ἔφατ'· εἰσὶ καὶ οἶδε τάδ' εἰπέμεν, οἳ μοι ἔποντο,<sup>24</sup>  
 Αἴας καὶ κήρυκε δύω, πεπνυμένω ἄμφω.

690 Φοῖνιξ δ' αὖθ' ὁ γέρων κατελέξατο, ὥς γὰρ ἀνώγει,  
 ὄφρα οἱ ἐν νήεσσι φίλην ἐς πατρίδ' ἔπηται  
 αὔριον, ἣν ἐθέλησιν· ἀνάγκη δ' οὐ τί μιν ἄξει.”<sup>25</sup>

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ  
 μῦθον ἀγασσάμενοι· μάλα γὰρ κρατερῶς ἀγόρευσε.”<sup>26</sup>  
 695 δὴν δ' ἄνωγ' ἦσαν τετιηότες νῆες Ἀχαιῶν·

<sup>24</sup> Lines 688–692 were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>25</sup> Line 692 was rejected by Zenodotus.

## BOOK 9

that and pledged them in cups of gold, and questioned them, and the lord of men, Agamemnon, was the first to ask: "Come, tell me now, Odysseus, greatly to be praised, great glory of the Achaeans, is he minded to ward off consuming fire from the ships, or did he refuse, and does wrath still possess his proud heart?"

Then much-enduring noble Odysseus answered him: "Most glorious son of Atreus, Agamemnon, lord of men, that man is not minded to quench his wrath, but is filled still more with fury, and will have none of you or your gifts. For you yourself he commands to take counsel among the Argives how you may save the ships and the army of the Achaeans. But himself he threatens that at break of day he will launch on the sea his well-benched curved ships. And he said that he would counsel others also to sail away home, since there is no longer hope that you will win the goal of steep Ilios; for mightily does Zeus, whose voice resounds afar, hold out his hand over it, and its people are filled with courage. So he spoke, and these men are here also to tell you this, they who followed with me, Aias and the two heralds, men of prudence both. But the old man Phoenix lay down there to rest, for so Achilles commanded, so that he may follow with him on his ships to his dear native land on the morrow, if he wishes, but by force he will not take him."

So he spoke, and they all became hushed in silence, marveling at his words; for very strongly had he addressed them. Long were the sons of the Achaeans silent in their

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<sup>26</sup> Line 694 was rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

- ὄψε δὲ δὴ μετέειπε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
 “Ἀτρεΐδῃ κύδιστε, ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγάμεμνον,  
 μὴ ὄφελος λίσσεσθαι ἀμύμονα Πηλεΐωνα,  
 μυρία δῶρα διδούς· ὁ δ’ ἀγῆνωρ ἐστὶ καὶ ἄλλως·  
 700 νῦν αὖ μιν πολὺ μᾶλλον ἀγνηρορίησιν ἐνῆκας.  
 ἀλλ’ ἦ τοι κείνον μὲν ἐάσομεν, ἦ κεν ἴησιν,  
 ἦ κε μένη· τότε δ’ αὖτε μαχήσεται, ὅππότε κέν μιν  
 θυμὸς ἐνὶ στήθεσσι ἀνώγῃ καὶ θεὸς ὄρσῃ.  
 ἀλλ’ ἄγεθ’, ὥς ἂν ἐγὼ εἴπω, πειθώμεθα πάντες·  
 705 νῦν μὲν κοιμήσασθε τεταρπόμενοι φίλον ἦτορ  
 σίτου καὶ οἴνοιο· τὸ γὰρ μένος ἐστὶ καὶ ἀλκή·  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κε φανῇ καλὴ ροδοδάκτυλος Ἥως,  
 καρπαλίμως πρὸ νεῶν ἐχέμεν λαόν τε καὶ ἵππους  
 ὀτρύνων, καὶ δ’ αὐτὸς ἐνὶ πρώτοισι μάχεσθαι.”  
 710 ὣς ἔφαθ’, οἳ δ’ ἄρα πάντες ἐπήνησαν βασιλῆες,  
 μῦθον ἀγασσάμενοι Διομήδεος ἵπποδάμοιο.  
 καὶ τότε δὴ σπείσαντες ἔβαν κλισίηνδε ἕκαστος,  
 ἔνθα δὲ κοιμήσαντο καὶ ὕπνου δῶρον ἔλοντο.

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grief, but at length there spoke among them Diomedes, good at the war cry: "Most glorious son of Atreus, Agamemnon, lord of men, I wish you had not begged the incomparable son of Peleus, nor offered countless gifts; haughty is he in any event, and now have you still more set him on to acts of haughtiness. But certainly we will let him be; he may depart or he may remain; hereafter he will fight when the heart in his breast commands him, and a god rouses him. But come, just as I shall say, let us all obey. For now go to your rest, when you have satisfied your hearts with meat and wine, for in them is courage and strength; but as soon as fair, rosy-fingered Dawn appears, immediately array before the ships your men and your chariots, and urge them on; and yourself fight among the foremost."

So he spoke, and all the kings assented to it, marveling at the words of Diomedes, tamer of horses. Then they poured a libation, and went each man to his hut, and there lay down and took the gift of sleep.

## Κ

- Ἄλλοι μὲν παρὰ νηυσὶν ἀριστῆες Παναχαιῶν  
 εὖδον παννύχιοι, μαλακῶ δεδμημένοι ὕπνω·  
 ἀλλ' οὐκ Ἀτρεΐδην Ἀγαμέμνονα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
 ὕπνος ἔχε γλυκερὸς πολλὰ φρεσὶν ὀρμαίνοντα.
- 5 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἀστράπτῃ πόσις Ἥρης ἠυκόμοιο,  
 τεύχων ἥ πολὺν ὄμβρον ἀθέσφατον ἥ ἐ χάλαζαν  
 ἥ νιφετόν, ὅτε πέρ τε χιῶν ἐπάλυνεν ἀρούρας,  
 ἥ ἐ ποθὶ πτολέμοιο μέγα στόμα πευκεδανοῖο,  
 ὥς πυκὶν' ἐν στήθεσσιν ἀνεστενάχιζ' Ἀγαμέμνων
- 10 νειόθεν ἐκ κραδίης, τρομέοντο δέ οἱ φρένες ἐντός.  
 ἥ τοι ὅτ' ἐς πεδῖον τὸ Τρωικὸν ἀθρήσειε,  
 θαύμαζεν πυρὰ πολλά, τὰ καίετο Ἰλιόθι πρό,  
 αὐλῶν συρίγγων τ' ἐνοπὴν ὁμαδὸν τ' ἀνθρώπων·  
 αὐτὰρ ὅτ' ἐς νῆάς τε ἴδοι καὶ λαὸν Ἀχαιῶν,
- 15 πολλὰς ἐκ κεφαλῆς προθελύμνους ἔλκετο χαίτας  
 ὑψόθ' ἐόντι Δίι, μέγα δ' ἔστενε κυδάλιμον κῆρ.  
 ἦδε δέ οἱ κατὰ θυμὸν ἀρίστη φαίνεται βουλή,  
 Νέστορ' ἔπι πρῶτον Νηληϊὸν ἐλθέμεν ἀνδρῶν,  
 εἴ τινα οἱ σὺν μῆτιν ἀμύμονα τεκτῆναιτο,
- 20 ἥ τις ἀλεξίκακος πᾶσιν Δαναοῖσι γένοιτο.  
 ὀρθωθεὶς δ' ἔνδυνε περὶ στήθεσσι χιτῶνα,



## BOOK 10

Now beside their ships all the other chief men of the army of the Achaeans were slumbering the whole night through, overcome by soft sleep, but Agamemnon, son of Atreus, shepherd of men, sweet sleep did not hold, so many things pondered he in his mind. Just as when the lord of fair-haired Hera lightens when he makes ready either much rain unspeakable or hail or snow, when the snow-flakes sprinkle the fields, or perhaps the wide mouth of bitter war, so often did Agamemnon groan from the deep recesses of his breast, and his heart trembled within him. In fact when he gazed toward the Trojan plain, he marveled at the many fires that burned before Ilios, and at the sound of flutes and pipes, and the din of men; but when he looked toward the ships and the army of the Achaeans, then many hairs he pulled from his head by the very roots in appeal to Zeus who is above, and in his noble heart he groaned mightily. And this plan seemed to his mind the best, to go first of all to Nestor, son of Neleus, in the hope that he might contrive with him some incomparable device that would serve to ward off evil from all the Danaans. So he sat up and put on his tunic about his chest, and beneath his

ποσσι δ' ὑπὸ λιπαροῖσιν ἐδήσατο καλὰ πέδιλα,  
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἔπειτα δαφοινὸν ἐέσσατο δέρμα λέοντος  
 αἶθωνος μεγάλοιο ποδηνεκές, εἴλετο δ' ἔγχος.

- 25 Ὡς δ' αὐτως Μενέλαον ἔχε τρόμος—οὐδὲ γὰρ αὐτῷ  
 ὕπνος ἐπὶ βλεφάροισιν ἐφίζανε—μή τι πάθουεν  
 Ἀργεῖοι, τοὶ δὴ ἔθεν εἵνεκα πουλὺν ἐφ' ὑγρὴν  
 ἤλυθον ἐς Τροίην πόλεμον θρασὺν ὀρμαίνοντες.  
 παρδαλέη μὲν πρῶτα μετάφρενον εὐρὺ κάλυψε  
 30 ποικίλῃ, αὐτὰρ ἐπὶ στεφάνην κεφαλῇφιν αἰείρας  
 θήκατο χαλκείην, δόρυ δ' εἴλετο χειρὶ παχείῃ.  
 βῆ δ' ἵμεν ἀνστήσων ὃν ἀδελφεόν, ὃς μέγα πάντων  
 Ἀργείων ἦνασσε, θεὸς δ' ὥς τίετο δῆμῳ.  
 τὸν δ' εὖρ' ἀμφ' ὥμοισι τιθήμενον ἔντεα καλὰ  
 35 νηὶ πάρα πρυμνῇ· τῷ δ' ἀσπᾶσιος γένετ' ἐλθών.  
 τὸν πρότερος προσέειπε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος·  
 “τίφθ' οὕτως, ἡθεῖε, κορύσσεαι; ἦ τιν' ἐταίρων  
 ὀτρυνέεις Τρώεσσιν ἐπίσκοπον; ἀλλὰ μάλ' αἰνῶς  
 δεῖδω μὴ οὐ τίς τοι ὑπόσχηται τόδε ἔργον,  
 40 ἄνδρας δυσμενέας σκοπιαζέμεν οἷος ἐπελθὼν  
 νύκτα δι' ἀμβροσίην· μάλα τις θρασυκάρδιος ἔσται.”

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη κρείων Ἀγα-  
 μένων·

- “χρεὼ βουλῆς ἐμὲ καὶ σέ, διοτρεφὲς ὦ Μενέλαε,  
 κερδαλέης, ἣ τίς κεν ἐρύσσεται ἡδὲ σαώσει  
 45 Ἀργεῖους καὶ νῆας, ἐπεὶ Διὸς ἐτράπετο φρὴν.  
 Ἐκτορέοις ἄρα μᾶλλον ἐπὶ φρένα θῆχ' ἱεροῖσιν.  
 οὐ γάρ πω ἰδόμην, οὐδ' ἐκλυον ἀνδρήσαντος,  
 ἄνδρ' ἓνα τοσσάδε μέρμερ' ἐπ' ἡματι μητίσασθαι,

shining feet bound his fair sandals, and then dressed himself in the tawny skin of a lion, fiery and great, a skin that reached his feet; and he grasped his spear.

And likewise did trembling fear hold Menelaus—for on his eyelids too sleep did not settle down—afraid that something might befall the Argives who for his sake had come to Troy over the wide waters of the sea, pondering bold war in their hearts. With a leopard's skin first he covered his broad shoulders, a dappled hide, and lifted up and set on his head a helmet of bronze, and grasped a spear in his stout hand. Then he went to rouse his brother, who ruled mightily over all the Argives and was honored by the people like a god. Him he found putting about his shoulders his fair armor by the stern of his ship, and welcome was he to him as he came. To him first spoke Menelaus, good at the war cry: "Why, brother, are you arming in this way? Will you be urging one of your comrades to spy on the Trojans? But I am dreadfully afraid that no one will undertake this task for you, to go out alone and spy on the foe through the immortal night; very bold-hearted must that man be."

In answer to him spoke lord Agamemnon: "Need have we, both you and I, Menelaus, nurtured by Zeus, of clever counsel that will save and preserve the Argives and their ships, since the mind of Zeus is turned. To the sacrifices of Hector, it seems, his heart inclines rather than to ours. For never have I seen nor heard from another man's telling that one man devised in one day so many grim deeds as Hector,

- ὅσος Ἐκτωρ ἔρρεξε διίφιλος υἱᾶς Ἀχαιῶν,  
 50 αὐτως, οὔτε θεᾶς υἱὸς φίλος οὔτε θεοῖο.  
 ἔργα δ' ἔρεξ' ὅσα φημὶ μελησέμεν Ἀργείοισι<sup>1</sup>  
 δηθά τε καὶ δολιχόν· τόσα γὰρ κακὰ μήσατ' Ἀχαιούς.  
 ἀλλ' ἴθι νῦν Αἴαντα καὶ Ἰδομενῆα κάλεσσον  
 ῥίμφα θεῶν παρὰ νῆας· ἐγὼ δ' ἐπὶ Νέστορα δῖον  
 55 εἶμι, καὶ ὀτρυνέω ἀνστήμεναι, αἳ κ' ἐθέλησιν  
 ἐλθεῖν ἐς φυλάκων ἱερὸν τέλος ἥδ' ἐπιτεῖλαι.  
 κείνῳ γάρ κε μάλιστα πιθοίαιτο· τοῖο γὰρ υἱὸς  
 σημαίνει φυλάκεσσι, καὶ Ἰδομενῆος ὀπάων  
 Μηριόνης· τοῖσιν γὰρ ἐπετράπομέν γε μάλιστα.”  
 60 Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα βοῆν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος·  
 “πῶς γάρ μοι μύθῳ ἐπιτέλλεαι ἥδὲ κελεύεις;  
 αὐθι μένω μετὰ τοῖσι, δεδεγμένος εἰς ὃ κεν ἔλθῃς,  
 ἦε θέω μετὰ σ' αὐτίς, ἐπὴν εὐ τοῖς ἐπιτείλω;”  
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 65 “αὐθι μένειν, μή πως ἀβροτάξομεν ἀλλήλοιν  
 ἐρχομένῳ· πολλαὶ γὰρ ἀνὰ στρατόν εἰσι κέλευθοι.  
 φθέγγεο δ' ἥ κεν ἵησθα, καὶ ἐγρήγορθαι ἄνωχθι,  
 πατρόθεν ἐκ γενεῆς ὀνομάζων ἄνδρα ἕκαστον,  
 πάντας κυδαίνων· μηδὲ μεγαλίζεο θυμῷ,  
 70 ἀλλὰ καὶ αὐτοί περ πονεώμεθα· ὧδέ που ἄμμι  
 Ζεὺς ἐπὶ γιγνομένοισιν ἵει κακότητα βαρεῖαν.”  
 ὣς εἰπὼν ἀπέπεμπεν ἀδελφεὸν εὖ ἐπιτείλας·  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ βῆ ῥ' ἰέναι μετὰ Νέστορα, ποιμένα λαῶν·  
 τὸν δ' εὗρεν παρά τε κλισίῃ καὶ νηὶ μελαίνῃ  
 75 εὐνῇ ἐνὶ μαλακῇ· παρὰ δ' ἔντεα ποικίλ' ἔκειτο,

dear to Zeus, has done to the sons of the Achaeans by himself alone, he who is not the dear son of goddess or god. Deeds he has done that I say will be a sorrow to the Argives for a long time, so many evils has he devised against the Achaeans. But go now, run swiftly along the lines of ships and call here Aias and Idomeneus, and I will go to noble Nestor and urge him to get up, in the hope that he will be willing to go to the holy company of the sentinels and give them a charge. Him would they obey as no other, for his son is leader over the guard, he and Meriones, comrade of Idomeneus; for to them above all we entrusted this charge."

Then made answer to him Menelaus, good at the war cry: "How do you charge and command me with your words? Shall I stay there with them, waiting until you come, or run back to you again, when I have well laid your charge on them?"

And to him did the lord of men, Agamemnon, make answer, saying: "Stay there, lest by chance we miss each other as we go, for many are the paths throughout the camp. But raise your voice wherever you go, and command men to be awake, calling each man by his lineage and his father's name, giving due honor to each, and do not be proud of heart, but rather let us ourselves toil; it was thus, I suppose, that Zeus sent heavy misery to us at our birth."

So he spoke, and sent his brother off when he had well given him his charge. But he set out to go after Nestor, shepherd of men, and him he found by his hut and his black ship on his soft bed, and beside him lay his armor

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<sup>1</sup> Lines 51 f. were rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

ἄσπις καὶ δύο δοῦρε φαεινὴ τε τρυφάλεια.

παρ δὲ ζωστήρ κείμετο παναίολος, ᾧ ῥ' ὁ γεραιὸς  
ζώννυθ', ὅτ' ἐς πόλεμον φθισήνορα θωρήσσοιτο  
λαὸν ἄγων, ἐπεὶ οὐ μὲν ἐπέτρεπε γήραϊ λυγρῷ.

80 ὀρθωθείς δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' ἀγκῶνος, κεφαλὴν ἐπαείρας,  
Ἀτρεΐδην προσέειπε καὶ ἐξερεείνετο μύθῳ·

“τίς δ' οὔτος κατὰ νῆας ἀνὰ στρατὸν ἔρχεαι οἶος  
νύκτα δι' ὀρφναίην, ὅτε θ' εὐδουσι βροτοὶ ἄλλοι,  
ἢ ἐτιν' οὐρήων διζήμενος, ἢ τιν' ἐταίρων;<sup>2</sup>

85 φθέγγεο, μηδ' ἀκέων ἐπ' ἔμ' ἔρχεο. τίπτε δέ σε χρεώ;”

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·

“ὦ Νέστορ Νηληιάδη, μέγα κῦδος Ἀχαιῶν,  
γνώσσαι Ἀτρεΐδην Ἀγαμέμνονα, τὸν περὶ πάντων  
Ζεὺς ἐνέηκε πόνοισι διαμπερές, εἰς ὃ κ' αὐτμὴ

90 ἐν στήθεσσι μένη καί μοι φίλα γούνατ' ὀρώρη.  
πλάζομαι ᾧδ', ἐπεὶ οὐ μοι ἐπ' ὄμμασι νήδυμος ὕπνος  
ἰζάνει, ἀλλὰ μέλει πόλεμος καὶ κήδε' Ἀχαιῶν.

αἰνῶς γὰρ Δαναῶν περιδεΐδια, οὐδέ μοι ἦτορ  
ἔμπεδον, ἀλλ' ἀλαλύκτῃμαι, κραδίη δέ μοι ἔξω

95 στηθέων ἐκθρώσκει τρομέει δ' ὑπὸ φαίδιμα γυνῖα.  
ἀλλ' εἴ τι δραίνεις, ἐπεὶ οὐδὲ σέ γ' ὕπνος ἰκάνει,  
δεῦρ' ἐς τοὺς φύλακας καταβήομεν, ὅφρα ἴδωμεν,  
μὴ τοὶ μὲν καμάτῳ ἀδηκότες ἦδὲ καὶ<sup>3</sup> ὕπνῳ  
κοιμήσωνται, ἀτὰρ φυλακῆς ἐπὶ πάγχυ λάθωνται.

100 δυσμενέες δ' ἄνδρες σχεδὸν ἤαται· οὐδέ τι ἴδμεν  
μή πως καὶ διὰ νύκτα μενοινήσωσι μάχεσθαι.”

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
“Ἀτρεΐδη κύδιστε, ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγάμεμνον,

richly inlaid, his shield and two spears and gleaming helmet. And by his side lay the flashing belt with which the old man was used to gird himself when he arrayed himself for man-destroying battle and led out his troops, for he yielded not to grievous old age. He rose on his elbow, lifting up his head, and spoke to the son of Atreus, and questioned him, saying: "Who are you who are coming alone by the ships through the camp in the murky night, when other mortals are sleeping? Do you seek one of your mules, or one of your comrades? Speak up, and come not silently on me. Of what have you need?"

Then made answer the lord of men, Agamemnon: "Nestor, son of Neleus, great glory of the Achaeans, you will recognize Agamemnon, son of Atreus, whom beyond all others Zeus has set among toils continually, so long as the breath remains in my breast and my knees are quick. I wander in this way because sweet sleep settles not on my eyes, but war is a trouble to me as well as the woes of the Achaeans. Dreadfully do I fear for the Danaans, and my mind is not firm, but I am tossed to and fro, and my heart leaps out of my breast, and my glorious limbs tremble beneath me. But if you wish to do something, since on you too sleep comes not, let us go look on the sentinels, lest worn out with toil and drowsiness they have gone to sleep, and have wholly forgotten their watch. The foe bivouacs near by, and we do not at all know whether perhaps he may not be eager to do battle even in the night."

Then made answer to him the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: "Most glorious son of Atreus, Agamemnon, lord

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<sup>2</sup> Line 84 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>3</sup> ἦδ' ἔ καὶ ἦδέϊ Zenodotus.

οὐθ' ἔκτορι πάντα νοήματα μητίετα Ζεὺς  
 105 ἐκτελέει, ὅσα πού νυν ἐέλπεται· ἀλλὰ μιν οἷω  
 κήδεσι μοχθήσειν καὶ πλείοσιν, εἴ κεν Ἀχιλλεὺς  
 ἐκ χόλου ἀργαλέοιο μεταστρέψῃ φίλον ἦτορ.  
 σοὶ δὲ μάλ' ἔψομ' ἐγὼ· ποτὶ δ' αὖ καὶ ἐγείρομεν  
 ἄλλους,

ἡμὲν Τυδείδην δουρικλυτὸν ἠδ' Ὀδυσῆα  
 110 ἠδ' Αἴαντα ταχὺν καὶ Φυλῆος ἄλκιμον υἱόν.  
 ἀλλ' εἴ τις καὶ τούσδε μετοιχόμενος καλέσειεν,  
 ἀντίθεόν τ' Αἴαντα καὶ Ἴδομενῆα ἄνακτα·  
 τῶν γὰρ νῆες ἕασιν ἐκαστάτω, οὐδὲ μάλ' ἐγγύς.  
 ἀλλὰ φίλον περ ἔοντα καὶ αἰδοῖον Μενέλαον  
 115 νεικέσω, εἴ πέρ μοι νεμεσήσεται, οὐδ' ἐπικεύσω,  
 ὥς εὖδει, σοὶ δ' οἷω ἐπέτρεψεν πονέεσθαι.  
 νῦν ὅφελεν κατὰ πάντας ἀριστῆας πονέεσθαι  
 λισσόμενος· χρεῖῳ γὰρ ἰκάνεται οὐκέτ' ἀνεκτός.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 120 “ὦ γέρον, ἄλλοτε μὲν σε καὶ αἰτιάασθαι ἄνωγα·  
 πολλάκι γὰρ μεθιῇ τε καὶ οὐκ ἐθέλει πονέεσθαι,  
 οὔτ' ὄκνω εἴκων οὔτ' ἀφραδίῃσι νόοιο,  
 ἀλλ' ἐμέ τ' εἰσορόων καὶ ἐμὴν ποτιδέγμενος ὁρμήν.  
 νῦν δ' ἐμέο πρότερος μάλ' ἐπέγρετο καὶ μοι ἐπέστη·  
 125 τὸν μὲν ἐγὼ προέηκα καλήμεναι οὓς σὺ μεταλλᾷς.  
 ἀλλ' ἵομεν· κείνους δὲ κιχησόμεθα πρὸ πυλάων  
 ἐν φυλάκεσσ', ἵνα γάρ σφιν ἐπέφραδον ἠγερέθεσθαι.”

Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Γερῆνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
 “οὕτως οὐ τίς οἱ νεμεσήσεται οὐδ' ἀπιθήσει  
 130 Ἀργείων, ὅτε κέν τιν' ἐποτρύνῃ καὶ ἀνώγῃ.”



of men, surely not all his purposes will Zeus the counselor fulfill for Hector, all that I imagine now he hopes; but I think he will labor among troubles more numerous even than ours, if Achilles turns his heart from grievous anger. You I will gladly follow, but let us moreover arouse others also, both the son of Tydeus, famed for his spear, and Odysseus, and the swift Aias, and the valiant son of Phyleus.<sup>1</sup> And it would be good if someone should go and summon these also, the godlike Aias and king Idomeneus, for their ships are furthest of all and not at all near at hand. But Menelaus I will reproach, dear though he is and respected, even if you should be angry with me, nor will I hide my thought, since he is sleeping and has allowed you to toil alone. Now he ought to have been toiling among all the chief men, begging them, for need past all bearing has come."

And to him did the lord of men, Agamemnon, make answer, saying: "Old sir, at another time shall you reproach him even at my own command, for he is often slack and not minded to toil, yielding neither to sloth nor to heedlessness of mind, but always looking to me and awaiting my lead. But now he awoke even before I did, and came to me, and I myself sent him out to summon those of whom you inquire. But let us go; we will find them in front of the gates among the sentinels, for there I instructed them to gather."

Then made answer to him the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: "So will no man be indignant at him or disobey him of all the Argives, when he urges any man on and commands him."

<sup>1</sup> That is, Meges; see 2.627. M.

- ὦς εἰπὼν ἔνδυνε περὶ στήθεσσι χιτῶνα,  
 ποσσὶ δ' ὑπὸ λιπαροῖσιν ἐδήσατο καλὰ πέδιλα,  
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρα χλαῖναν περονήσατο φοινικέεσσαν  
 διπλὴν ἐκταδίην, οὔλη δ' ἐπενήνοθε λάχνη.  
 135 εἶλετο δ' ἄλκιμον ἔγχος, ἀκαχμένον ὀξεί χαλκῶ,  
 βῆ δ' ἰέναι κατὰ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων.  
 πρῶτον ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα, Διὶ μῆτιν ἀτάλαντον,  
 ἐξ ὕπνου ἀνέγειρε Γερήνιος ἱππότης Νέστωρ  
 φθεγξάμενος· τὸν δ' αἶψα περὶ φρένας ἦλυθ' ἰωή,  
 140 ἐκ δ' ἦλθε κλισίης καὶ σφεας πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπε·  
 “τίφθ' οὔτω κατὰ νῆας ἀνὰ στρατὸν οἶοι ἀλᾶσθε  
 νύκτα δι' ἀμβροσίην, ὅ τι δὴ χρειῶ τόσον ἵκει;”  
 Τὸν δ' ἡμέμβετ' ἔπειτα Γερήνιος ἱππότης Νέστωρ·  
 “διογενὲς Λαερτιάδη, πολυμήχαν' Ὀδυσσεῦ,  
 145 μὴ νεμέσα· τοῖον γὰρ ἄχος βεβίηκεν Ἀχαιοῦς.  
 ἀλλ' ἔπε', ὄφρα καὶ ἄλλον ἐγείρομεν, ὃν τ' ἐπέοικε  
 βουλὰς βουλεύειν, ἣ φευγέμεν ἢ μάχεσθαι.”  
 ὦς φάθ', ὃ δὲ κλισίηνδε κιὼν πολύμητις Ὀδυσ-  
 σεὺς  
 ποικίλον ἀμφ' ὤμοισι σάκος θέτο, βῆ δὲ μετ' αὐτούς.  
 150 βὰν δ' ἐπὶ Τυδεΐδην Διομήδεα· τὸν δ' ἐκίχανον  
 ἐκτὸς ἀπὸ κλισίης σὺν τεύχεσιν· ἀμφὶ δ' ἐταῖροι  
 εὔδον, ὑπὸ κρασὶν δ' ἔχον ἀσπίδας· ἔγχεα δέ σφιν  
 ὄρθ' ἐπὶ σαυρωτῆρος ἐλήλατο, τῇλε δὲ χαλκὸς  
 λάμφ' ὥς τε στεροπὴ πατρὸς Διός. αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ἦρως  
 155 εὔδ', ὑπὸ δ' ἔστρωτο ῥινὸν βοὸς ἀγραύλοιο,  
 αὐτὰρ ὑπὸ κράτεσφι τάπης τετάνυστο φαεινός.  
 τὸν παρστὰς ἀνέγειρε Γερήνιος ἱππότης Νέστωρ,

So saying he put on his tunic about his chest, and beneath his shining feet bound his fair sandals and around him buckled a purple cloak of double fold and wide, on which the down was thick. And he grasped a mighty spear, tipped with sharp bronze, and set out to go among the ships of the bronze-clad Achaeans. Then Odysseus first, the peer of Zeus in counsel, did the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, awaken out of sleep by calling out to him, and immediately the sound rang all about his mind and he came out of the hut and spoke to them, saying: "How is it that you roam in this way alone by the ships through the camp in the immortal night? What need so great has come on you?"

Then made answer to him the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: "Zeus-born son of Laertes, Odysseus of many wiles, do not be indignant, for great sorrow has come upon the Achaeans. But, follow, so that we may rouse another also for whom it is right that he take counsel whether to flee or to fight."

So he spoke, and Odysseus of many wiles went to the hut and placed about his shoulders a richly inlaid shield, and followed after them. And they came to Tydeus' son, Diomedes, and him they found outside his hut with his arms; and around him his comrades were sleeping with their shields under their heads, but their spears were driven into the ground erect on their butt ends, and far shone the bronze like the lightning of father Zeus. But the warrior was sleeping, and under him was spread the hide of an ox of the field, and under his head was stretched a bright carpet. To his side came the horseman, Nestor

- λὰξ ποδὶ κινήσας, ὅτρυνέ τε νείκεσέ τ' ἄντην·  
 “ἔγρεο, Τυδέος νιέ· τί πάννυχον ὕπνον ἄωτεῖς;  
 160 οὐκ αἶεις ὥς Τρῶες ἐπὶ θρωσμῷ πεδίοιο  
 ἦται ἀγχι νεῶν, ὀλίγος δ' ἔτι χῶρος ἐρύκει;”  
 ὣς φάθ', ὃ δ' ἐξ ὕπνοιο μάλα κραιπνῶς ἀνόρουσε,  
 καί μιν φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “σχέτλιός ἐσσι, γεραῖέ· σὺ μὲν πόνου οὐ ποτε λήγεις.  
 165 οὐ νυ καὶ ἄλλοι ἔασιν νεώτεροι νῆες Ἀχαιῶν,  
 οἳ κεν ἔπειτα ἕκαστον ἐγείρειαν βασιλῆων  
 πάντα ἐποιχόμενοι; σὺ δ' ἀμήχανός ἐσσι, γεραῖέ.”  
 Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
 “ναὶ δὴ ταῦτά γε πάντα, φίλος, κατὰ μοῖραν ἔειπες.  
 170 εἰσὶν μὲν μοι παῖδες ἀμύμονες, εἰσὶ δὲ λαοὶ  
 καὶ πολέες, τῶν κέν τις ἐποιχόμενος καλέσειεν.  
 ἀλλὰ μάλα μεγάλη χρεῖῶ βεβίηκεν Ἀχαιοὺς.  
 νῦν γὰρ δὴ πάντεσσιν ἐπὶ ξυροῦ ἵσταται ἀκμῆς  
 ἢ μάλα λυγρὸς ὄλεθρος Ἀχαιοῖς ἢ βιώναι.  
 175 ἀλλ' ἴθι νῦν Αἴαντα ταχὺν καὶ Φυλῆος υἱὸν  
 ἀνστησον, σὺ γάρ ἐσσι νεώτερος—εἴ μ' ἐλεαίρεις.”  
 ὣς φάθ', ὃ δ' ἀμφ' ὤμοισιν ἐέσσατο δέρμα λέοντος  
 αἰθωνος μέγαλοιο ποδηγεκές, εἵλετο δ' ἔγχος.  
 βῆ δ' ἰέναι, τοὺς δ' ἔνθεν ἀναστήσας ἄγεν ἥρως.  
 180 Οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ φυλάκεσσιν ἐν ἀγρομένοισιν ἔμιχθεν,<sup>4</sup>  
 οὐδὲ μὲν εὖδοντας φυλάκων ἡγήτορας εὖρον,  
 ἀλλ' ἐγρηγορτὶ σὺν τεύχεσιν ἦατο πάντες.  
 ὥς δὲ κύνες περὶ μῆλα δυσωρήσωνται ἐν αὐλῇ  
 θηρὸς ἀκούσαντες κρατερόφρονος, ὅς τε καθ' ὕλην

of Gerenia, and woke him, stirring him with a touch of his heel, and aroused him, and rebuked him to his face: "Awake, son of Tydeus, why do you slumber the whole night through? Do you not realize that the Trojans on the rising ground of the plain are camped hard by the ships, and but scant space still holds them off?"

So said he, but the other very swiftly sprang up out of sleep, and he spoke and addressed him with winged words: "You are hard, old sir, and from toil you never cease. Are there not other sons of the Achaeans who are younger, who might then rouse each one of the kings, going everywhere through the army? But you, old sir, are impossible."

Then the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, answered him: "Indeed, friend, all this you have spoken properly. Incomparable sons have I, and of men there are many, any one of whom might go and call the others. But very great need has come upon the Achaeans, since now for all it stands on a razor's edge, either woeful destruction for the Achaeans, or to live. But go now and rouse swift Aias and the son of Phyleus, for you are younger—if you pity me."

So he spoke, and Diomedes put about his shoulders the skin of a lion, fiery and great, a skin that reached his feet, and grasped his spear, and he set out to go, and roused those warriors from where they were, and brought them.

Now when they had joined the sentinels as they were gathered together, they found the leaders of the sentinels not asleep, but all were sitting awake with their weapons. And just as dogs keep painful watch about sheep in a fold, when they hear the wild beast, stout of heart, that comes

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<sup>4</sup> ἔμιχθεν: γένοντο.

- 185 ἔρχηται δι' ὄρεσφι· πολὺς δ' ὀρυμαγδὸς ἐπ' αὐτῷ  
 ἀνδρῶν ἠδὲ κυνῶν, ἀπὸ τέ σφισιν ὕπνος ὀλώλει·  
 ὥς τῶν νήδυμος ὕπνος ἀπὸ βλεφάροιιν ὀλώλει  
 νύκτα φυλασσομένοισι κακὴν· πεδίοιεν γὰρ αἰεὶ  
 τετράφαθ', ὀππότε' ἐπὶ Τρώων αἰοίεν ἰόντων.
- 190 τοὺς δ' ὁ γέρων γήθησεν ἰδὼν θάρσυνέ τε μύθῳ  
 καὶ σφεας φωνήσας ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·<sup>5</sup>  
 “οὔτῳ νῦν, φίλα τέκνα, φυλάσσετε· μηδέ τιν' ὕπνος  
 αἰρεῖίτω, μὴ χάρμα γενώμεθα δυσμενέεσσιν.”
- Ἦς εἰπὼν τάφροιο διέσσυτο· τοὶ δ' ἅμ' ἔποντο
- 195 Ἀργείων βασιλῆες, ὅσοι κεκλήατο βουλήν.  
 τοῖς δ' ἅμα Μηριόνης καὶ Νέστορος ἀγλαὸς υἱὸς  
 ἦισαν· αὐτοὶ γὰρ κάλεον συμμητιάσθαι.  
 τάφρον δ' ἐκδιαβάντες ὀρυκτὴν ἐδριόωντο  
 ἐν καθαρῷ, ὅθι δὴ νεκύων διεφαίνετο χώρος
- 200 πιπτόντων· ὅθεν αὖτις ἀπετράπετ' ὄβριμος Ἑκτωρ  
 ὄλλυς Ἀργείους, ὅτε δὴ περὶ νύξ ἐκάλυψεν.  
 ἔνθα καθεζόμενοι ἔπε' ἀλλήλοισι πίφανσκον·  
 τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἦρχε Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
 “ὦ φίλοι, οὐκ ἂν δὴ τις ἀνὴρ πεπίθοιθ' ἐφ' αὐτοῦ
- 205 θυμῷ τολμήεντι μετὰ Τρώας μεγαθύμους  
 ἐλθεῖν, εἴ τινά που δηίων ἔλοι ἐσχατόωντα,  
 ἢ τινά που καὶ φῆμιν ἐνὶ Τρώεσσι πύθοιτο,  
 ἄσσα τε μητιώσι μετὰ σφίσιν, ἢ μεμάασιν  
 αὖθι μένειν παρὰ νηυσὶν ἀπόπροθεν, ἦε πόλινδε
- 210 ἅψ ἀναχωρήσουσιν, ἐπεὶ δαμάσαντό γ' Ἀχαιοὺς;  
 ταῦτά κε πάντα πύθοιτο, καὶ ἅψ εἰς ἡμέας ἔλθοι  
 ἀσκηθῆς· μέγα κέν οἱ ὑπουράνιον κλέος εἶη

through the wood among the hills, and a great din arises about him of men and dogs, and from them sleep perishes; so from their eyelids did sweet sleep perish, as they kept watch through the evil night; for toward the plain they were turned in case they might hear the Trojans coming on. At sight of them the old man rejoiced and encouraged them, and spoke and addressed them with winged words: "Just as you are doing now, dear children, keep your watch, and do not let sleep seize any man, lest we become a cause of rejoicing to our foes."

So saying he hurried through the trench, and there followed with him the kings of the Argives, those who had been called to the council. And with them went Meriones and the glorious son of Nestor; for they themselves had called these men to share in their counsel. So they went through and out from the trench they had dug and sat down in an open space where the ground showed clear of dead men fallen, where mighty Hector had turned back again from destroying the Argives when night enfolded him. There they sat down and spoke to one another, and among them the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, was first to speak: "My friends, is there then no man who would trust his own venturous spirit to go among the great-hearted Trojans, in the hope that he might slay some straggler of the foe, or perhaps hear some rumor among the Trojans, and what counsel they devise among themselves, whether they intend to remain where they are by the ships far from the city, or to withdraw again to the city, since they have vanquished the Achaeans? All this he might learn, and come back to us unscathed: great would his fame be under

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<sup>5</sup> Line 191 is omitted in many MSS.

πάντας ἐπ' ἀνφρώπους, καί οἱ δόσις ἔσσεται ἐσθλή·  
 ὅσσοι γὰρ νήεσσιν ἐπικρατέουσιν ἄριστοι,  
 215 τῶν πάντων οἱ ἕκαστος οἷν δώσουσι μέλαιναν  
 θῆλυν ὑπόρρηνον· τῇ μὲν κτέρας οὐδὲν ὁμοῖον·  
 αἰεὶ δ' ἐν δαίτησι καὶ εἰλαπίνῃσι παρέσται.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ.  
 τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·

220 “Νέστορ, ἔμ' ὀτρύνει κραδίη καὶ θυμὸς ἀγῆνωρ  
 ἀνδρῶν δυσμενέων δῦναι στρατὸν ἐγγὺς ἐόντων,  
 Τρώων· ἀλλ' εἴ τίς μοι ἀνὴρ ἅμ' ἔποιτο καὶ ἄλλος,  
 μᾶλλον θαλπωρὴ καὶ θαρσαλεώτερον ἔσται.  
 σύν τε δύ' ἐρχομένω, καί τε πρὸ ὃ τοῦ ἐνόησεν  
 225 ὅππως κέρδος ἔη· μῦθος δ' εἴ πέρ τε νοήσῃ,  
 ἀλλὰ τέ οἱ βράσσων τε νόος, λεπτή δέ τε μῆτις.”

“Ὡς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἔθελον Διομήδεϊ πολλοὶ ἔπεσθαι.  
 ἠθελέτην Αἴαντε δύω, θεράποντες Ἴδης,  
 ἠθέλε Μηνριόνης, μάλα δ' ἠθέλε Νέστορος υἱός,  
 230 ἠθέλε δ' Ἀτρεΐδης δουρικλειτὸς Μενέλαος,  
 ἠθέλε δ' ὁ τλήμων Ὀδυσσεὺς καταδῦναι ὄμιλον  
 Τρώων· αἰεὶ γάρ οἱ ἐνὶ φρεσὶ θυμὸς ἐτόλμα.

τοῖσι δὲ καὶ μετέειπεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 “Τυδεΐδῃ Διόμηδες, ἐμῷ κεχαρισμένε θυμῷ,  
 235 τὸν μὲν δὴ ἔταρόν γ' αἰρήσεται, ὃν κ' ἐθέλῃσθα,  
 φαινομένων τὸν ἄριστον, ἐπεὶ μεμάασί γε πολλοί.  
 μηδὲ σύ γ' αἰδόμενος σῆσι φρεσὶ τὸν μὲν ἀρείω  
 καλλείπειν, σὺ δὲ χεῖρον' ὁπάσσειαι αἰδοίᾳ εἴκων,  
 ἐς γενεὴν ὀρόων, μηδ' εἰ βασιλεύτερός ἐστιν.”

240 “Ὡς ἔφατ', ἔδδεισεν δὲ περὶ ξανθῷ Μενελάῳ.<sup>6</sup>



heaven among all men, and a noble gift will be his. For of all the chief men who hold sway over the ships, of all these shall every man give him a black ewe with a lamb at the teat—with it no possession compares—and always he will be with us at feasts and drinking bouts.”

So said he, and they all became hushed in silence. Then spoke among them Diomedes, good at the war cry: “Nestor, my heart and proud spirit urge me to enter the camp of the foes nearby, the Trojans; but if some other man also were to follow with me, greater comfort would there be, and greater confidence. When two go together, one discerns before the other how profit may be had; alone, if one discerns anything, yet is his discernment the shorter, and but slender his device.”

So he spoke, and many there were who were eager to follow Diomedes. Eager were the two Aiantes, attendants of Ares, eager was Meriones, and very eager the son of Nestor, eager was the son of Atreus, Menelaus, famed for his spear, and eager too was the steadfast Odysseus to enter into the throng of the Trojans, for ever bold was the spirit in his breast. Then among them spoke the lord of men, Agamemnon: “Diomedes, son of Tydeus, dear to my heart, that man shall you choose as your comrade, whomever you wish, the best of these that offer themselves, since many are eager. And do not out of respect in your mind leave the better man behind, and take as your comrade one who is worse, yielding to respect and looking to birth, not even though that one is more kingly.”

So said he, and he feared for the sake of tawny-haired

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<sup>6</sup> Line 240 was rejected by Zenodotus and Aristarchus.

- τοῖς δ' αὖτις μετέειπε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
 “εἰ μὲν δὴ ἔταρόν γε κελεύετε μ' αὐτὸν ἐλέσθαι,  
 πῶς ἂν ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆος ἐγὼ θείοιο λαθοίμην,  
 οὗ πέρι μὲν πρόφρων κραδίη καὶ θυμὸς ἀγήνωρ  
 245 ἐν πάντεσσι πόνοισι, φιλεῖ δέ ἐ Παιλλὰς Ἀθήνη.  
 τούτου γε σπομένοιο καὶ ἐκ πυρὸς αἰθομένοιο  
 ἄμφω νοστήσαιμεν, ἐπεὶ περίοιδε νοῆσαι.”
- Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε πολύτλας δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·  
 “Τυδεΐδῃ, μήτ' ἄρ με μάλ' αἶνεε μήτε τι νείκει·  
 250 εἰδόσι γάρ τοι ταῦτα μετ' Ἀργείοις ἀγορεύεις.  
 ἀλλ' ἴομεν· μάλα γὰρ νύξ ἄνεται, ἐγγύθι δ' ἠώς,  
 ἄστρα δὲ δὴ προβέβηκε, παροίχωκεν δὲ πλέων νύξ  
 τῶν δύο μοιράων, τριτάτῃ δ' ἔτι μοῖρα λέλειπται.”<sup>7</sup>
- Ὡς εἰπόνθ' ὅπλοισιν ἐνὶ δεινοῖσιν ἐδύτην.  
 255 Τυδεΐδῃ μὲν δῶκε μενεπτόλεμος Θρασυμήδης  
 φάσγανον ἄμφηκες—τὸ δ' ἐὼν παρὰ νηὶ λέλειπτο—  
 καὶ σάκος· ἀμφὶ δέ οἱ κυνέην κεφαλῇφιν ἔθηκε  
 ταυρεῖην, ἄφαλόν τε καὶ ἄλλοφον, ἣ τε καταῖτυξ  
 κέκληται, ῥύεται δὲ κάρη θαλερῶν αἰζηῶν.
- 260 Μηριόνης δ' Ὀδυσῇ δίδου βιὸν ἠδὲ φαρέτρην  
 καὶ ξίφος, ἀμφὶ δέ οἱ κυνέην κεφαλῇφιν ἔθηκε  
 ῥινοῦ ποιητήν· πολέσιν δ' ἐντοσθεν ἱμάσιν  
 ἐντέτατο στερεῶς· ἔκτοσθε δὲ λευκοὶ ὀδόντες  
 ἀργιόδοντος υἱὸς θαμέες ἔχον ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα
- 265 εὖ καὶ ἐπισταμένως· μέσση δ' ἐνὶ πῖλος ἀρήρει.  
 τήν ῥά ποτ' ἐξ Ἑλεῶνος Ἀμύντορος Ὀρμενίδαο  
 ἐξέλετ' Αὐτόλυκος πυκινὸν δόμον ἀντιτορήσας,  
 Σκάνδειαν δ' ἄρα δῶκε Κυθηρίῳ Ἀμφιδάμαντι·

Menelaus. But among them spoke again Diomedes, good at the war cry: "If you really order me to choose a comrade myself, how should I then overlook godlike Odysseus, whose heart and gallant spirit are beyond all others eager in all manner of toils; and Pallas Athene loves him. If he follows with me, even out of blazing fire we might both return, for wise above all is he in discernment."

Then much enduring noble Odysseus answered him: "Son of Tydeus, praise me not too much, nor blame me: for you announce these things to Argives who know. But let us go, for night is waning and dawn draws near; the stars have moved onward, and of the night more than two watches have past, and the third alone is left us."

So saying the two put on their terrible armor. To Tydeus' son Thrasymedes, firm in the fight, gave a two-edged sword—for his own was left by his ship—and a shield, and about his head he set a helmet of bull's hide without ridge and without crest, a helmet that is called a skullcap and guards the heads of vigorous youths. And Meriones gave to Odysseus a bow and a quiver and a sword, and about his head he set a helmet made of hide, and with many a tight-stretched thong was it made stiff inside, while on the outside the white teeth of a boar of gleaming tusks were set thick this way and that, well and skilfully, and on the inside was fixed a lining of felt. This cap Autolycus had stolen out of Eleon when he had broken into the well-built house of Amyntor, son of Ormenus; and he gave it to Amphidamas of Cythera to take to Scandeia,

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<sup>7</sup> Line 253 was rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

- Ἀμφιδάμας δὲ Μόλῳ δῶκε ξεινήιον εἶναι,  
 270 αὐτὰρ ὁ Μηριόνη δῶκεν ᾧ παιδὶ φορῆναι·  
 δὴ τότε Ὀδυσσῆος πύκασεν κάρη ἀμφιτεθείσα.  
 Τῷ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν ὄπλοισιν ἐνὶ δεινοῖσιν ἐδύτην,  
 βάν ῥ' ἰέναι, λιπέτην δὲ κατ' αὐτόθι πάντας ἀρίστους.  
 τοῖσι δὲ δεξιὸν ἦκεν ἐρωδιὸν ἐγγὺς ὁδοῖο  
 275 Παλλὰς Ἀθηναίη· τοὶ δ' οὐκ ἴδον ὀφθαλμοῖσι  
 νύκτα δι' ὀρφναίην, ἀλλὰ κλάγξαντος ἄκουσαν.  
 χαῖρε δὲ τῷ ὄρνιθ' Ὀδυσσεύς, ἡρᾶτο δ' Ἀθήνη·  
 “κλυθί μεν, αἰγιόχοιο Διὸς τέκος, ἣ τέ μοι αἰεὶ  
 ἐν πάντεσσι πόνοισι παρίστασαι, οὐδέ σε λήθω  
 280 κινύμενος· νῦν αὖτε μάλιστά με φίλαι, Ἀθήνη,  
 δὸς δὲ πάλιν ἐπὶ νῆας ἐνκλείας ἀφικέσθαι,  
 ῥέξαντας μέγα ἔργον, ὃ κε Τρώεσσι μελήσῃ.”  
 Δεύτερος αὖτ' ἡρᾶτο βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης·  
 “κέκλυθι νῦν καὶ ἐμείο, Διὸς τέκος, Ἀτρυτώνη·  
 285 σπείό μοι ὥς ὅτε πατρὶ ἄμ' ἔσπεο Τυδείδῃ δίῳ  
 ἐς Θήβας, ὅτε τε πρὸ Ἀχαιῶν ἄγγελος ἦει.  
 τοὺς δ' ἄρ' ἐπ' Ἀσωπῷ λίπε χαλκοχίτωνας Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ μειλίχιον μῦθον φέρε Καδμείοισι  
 κείσ'· ἀτὰρ ἅψ ἀπιὼν μάλα μέρμερα μῆσατο ἔργα  
 290 σὺν σοί, δῖα θεά, ὅτε οἱ πρόφρασσα παρέστης.  
 ὥς νῦν μοι ἐθέλουσα παρίσταο καί με φύλασσε.<sup>8</sup>  
 σοὶ δ' αὖ ἐγὼ ῥέξω βούνῃν ἥνιν εὐρυμέτωπον,  
 ἀδμήτην, ἣν οὐ πω ὑπὸ ζυγὸν ἤγαγεν ἀνὴρ·  
 τήν τοι ἐγὼ ῥέξω χρυσὸν κέρασιν περιχεύας.”

<sup>8</sup> καὶ με φύλασσε: καὶ πόρε κῦδος Zenodotus.

and Amphidamas gave it to Molus as a guest-gift, but he gave it to his own son Meriones to wear; and now it was set on the head of Odysseus and covered it closely.

So when the two had put on their terrible armor, they set out to go and left there all the chief men. And for them Pallas Athene sent on their right a heron, close by their way, and though they saw it not with their eyes through the murky night, yet they heard its cry. And Odysseus rejoiced at the omen, and made prayer to Athene: "Hear me, child of Zeus, who bears the aegis, you who always stand by my side in all manner of toils, nor am I unseen by you whenever I move; now again show your love, Athene, as never you did before, and grant that with noble renown we come back to the ships, having performed a great deed that will be a sorrow to the Trojans."

And after him again prayed Diomedes, good at the war cry: "Hear me now as well, child of Zeus, Atrytone. Follow now with me just as you once followed with my father, noble Tydeus, into Thebes, when he went ahead as a messenger of the Achaeans. Then, the bronze-clad Achaeans, he left by the Asopus, and he was bringing gentle words there to the Cadmeians; but as he journeyed back he devised deeds very grim<sup>2</sup> together with you, fair goddess, for eagerly you stood by his side. So now be minded to stand by my side, and guard me. And to you in return will I sacrifice a yearling heifer, broad of brow, unbroken, which no man has yet led beneath the yoke. Her will I sacrifice to you and will overlay her horns with gold."

<sup>2</sup> That is, the slaying of the ambush, as narrated in 4. 392-397. M.

- 295 ὣς ἔφαν εὐχόμενοι, τῶν δ' ἔκλυε Παλλὰς Ἀθήνη.  
οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ ἠρήσαντο Διὸς κούρη μέγαλοιο,  
βάν ῥ' ἵμεν ὥς τε λέοντε δύω διὰ νύκτα μέλαιναν,  
ἄμ φόνον, ἂν νέκυας, διὰ τ' ἔντεα καὶ μέλαν αἶμα.
- Οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδὲ Τρῶας ἀγήνορας εἶασεν Ἔκτωρ  
300 εὔδειν, ἀλλ' ἄμυδις κικλήσκετο πάντας ἀρίστους,  
ὅσσοι ἔσαν Τρώων ἠγῆτορες ἠδὲ μέδοντες·  
τοὺς ὃ γε συγκαλέσας πυκινὴν ἀρτύνετο βουλήν·  
“τίς κέν μοι τόδε ἔργον ὑποσχόμενος τελέσειε  
δώρῳ ἐπὶ μεγάλῳ; μισθὸς δέ οἱ ἄρκιος ἔσται.
- 305 δώσω γὰρ δίφρον τε δύω τ' ἐριαύχενας ἵππους,  
οἳ κεν ἄριστοι ἔωσι θοῆς ἐπὶ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν,<sup>9</sup>  
ὅς τίς κε τλαίῃ, οἳ τ' αὐτῷ κῦδος ἄροιτο,  
νηῶν ὠκυπόρων σχεδὸν ἐλθέμεν, ἔκ τε πυθέσθαι  
ἢ φυλάσσονται νῆες θοαὶ ὥς τὸ πάρος περ,  
310 ἢ ἤδη χεῖρεσσιν ὑφ' ἡμετέρησι δαμέντες  
φύξιν βουλεύουσι μετὰ σφίσιν, οὐδ' ἐθέλουσι  
νύκτα φυλασσέμεναι, καμάτῳ ἀδηκότες αἰνῶ.”
- ὣς ἔφαθ', οἱ δ' ἄρα πάντες ἀκὴν ἐγένοντο σιωπῇ.  
ἦν δέ τις ἐν Τρώεσσι Δόλων, Εὐμήδεος υἱὸς  
315 κήρυκος θείοιο, πολύχρυσος πολύχαλκος,  
ὃς δὴ τοι εἶδος μὲν ἔην κακός, ἀλλὰ ποδώκης·  
αὐτὰρ ὁ μῶνος ἔην μετὰ πέντε κασιγνήτησιν.<sup>10</sup>  
ὃς ῥά τότε Τρωσὶν τε καὶ Ἔκτορι μῦθον ἔειπεν·  
“Ἔκτορ, ἔμ' ὀτρύνει κραδίη καὶ θυμὸς ἀγήνωρ  
320 νηῶν ὠκυπόρων σχεδὸν ἐλθέμεν ἔκ τε πυθέσθαι.  
ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τὸ σκῆπτρον ἀνάσχεο, καί μοι ὄμοσον

So they spoke in prayer and Pallas Athene heard them. And when they had prayed to the daughter of great Zeus, they set out to go like two lions through the black night, amid the slaughter, amid the corpses, through the armor and the black blood.

Nor indeed did Hector allow the gallant Trojans to sleep, but he called together all the noblest, as many as were leaders and rulers of the Trojans; and when he had called them together, he contrived a shrewd plan, and said: "Who is there now that would promise me this deed and bring it to pass for a great gift? His reward will be sure. For I will give him a chariot and two horses with high arched necks, those that are the best at the swift ships of the Achaeans, to the man who will dare—and for himself win glory—to go close to the swift-faring ships, and spy out whether the swift ships are guarded as before, or whether by now, vanquished at our hands, our foes are planning flight among themselves and are not minded to watch the night through, being worn out with dread weariness."

So he spoke and they all became hushed in silence. Now there was among the Trojans one Dolon, the son of Eumedes the godlike herald, a man rich in gold, rich in bronze, who was to be sure ill-favored to look on, but swift of foot; and he was the only brother among five sisters. He then spoke a word to the Trojans and Hector: "Hector, my heart and gallant spirit urge me to go close to the swift-faring ships and find out. But come, raise your staff and swear to me that you will truly give me those horses and the

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<sup>9</sup> Line 306 was given by Zenodotus in the form

*αὐτοὺς οἱ φορέουσιν ἀμύμονα Πηλείωνα,*

<sup>10</sup> *κασιγνήτησιν: κασιγνήτοισιν* Zenodotus.

ἦ μὲν τοὺς ἵππους τε καὶ ἄρματα ποικίλα χαλκῷ  
 δωσέμεν, οἳ φορέουσιν ἀμύμονα Πηλεΐωνα,  
 σοὶ δ' ἐγὼ οὐχ ἄλιος σκοπὸς ἔσσομαι οὐδ' ἀπὸ δόξης.  
 325 τόφρα γὰρ ἐς στρατὸν εἶμι διαμπερές, ὅφρ' ἂν ἴκωμαι  
 νῆ' Ἀγαμεμνονέην, ὅθι που μέλλουσιν ἄριστοι  
 βουλὰς βουλεύειν, ἣ φευγέμεν ἢ μάχεσθαι.”

Ὡς φάθ', ὁ δ' ἐν χερσὶ σκῆπτρον λάβε καὶ οἱ  
 ὅμοσσαν·

“ἴστω νῦν Ζεὺς αὐτός, ἐρίγδουπος πόσις Ἥρης,  
 330 μὴ μὲν τοῖς ἵπποισιν ἀνὴρ ἐποχήσεται ἄλλος  
 Τρώων, ἀλλὰ σέ φημι διαμπερές ἀγλαΐεσθαι.”

Ὡς φάτο καὶ ῥ' ἐπίορκον ἐπώμοσε, τὸν δ' ὀρόθυνεν.  
 αὐτίκα δ' ἀμφ' ὥμοισιν ἐβάλλετο καμπύλα τόξα,  
 ἔσσατο δ' ἔκτοσθεν ῥινὸν πολιοῖο λύκοιο,  
 335 κρατὶ δ' ἐπὶ κτιδέην κυνέην, ἔλε δ' ὄξυν ἄκοντα,  
 βῆ δ' ἰέναι προτὶ νῆας ἀπὸ στρατοῦ· οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔμελλεν  
 ἐλθὼν ἐκ νηῶν ἄψ' Ἑκτορι μῦθον ἀποίσειν.

ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἵππων τε καὶ ἀνδρῶν κάλλιφ' ὄμιλον,  
 βῆ ῥ' ἀν' ὁδὸν μεμαώς· τὸν δὲ φράσατο προσιόντα  
 340 διογενὴς Ὀδυσσεύς, Διομήδεα δὲ προσέειπεν·

“οὗτός τις, Διόμηδες, ἀπὸ στρατοῦ ἔρχεται ἀνὴρ,  
 οὐκ οἶδ' ἢ νήεσσιν ἐπίσκοπος ἡμετέρησιν,  
 ἦ τινα συλήσων νεκύων κατατεθνηώτων.

ἀλλ' ἐώμέν μιν πρῶτα παρεξελθεῖν πεδίοιο  
 345 τυτθόν· ἔπειτα δέ κ' αὐτὸν ἐπαΐξαντες ἔλοιμεν  
 καρπαλίμως· εἰ δ' ἄμμε παραφθαίησι πόδεσσιν,  
 αἰεὶ μιν ἐπὶ νῆας ἀπὸ στρατόφι προτιειλεῖν,  
 ἔγχει ἐπαΐσσω, μή πως προτὶ ἄστυ ἀλύξῃ.”



chariot, richly inlaid with bronze, that carry the incomparable son of Peleus. And to you I will prove no vain scout, nor one to deceive your hopes. For I will go straight on to the camp until I come to the ship of Agamemnon, where, I imagine, the chief men will be holding council whether to flee or to fight."

So he spoke, and Hector took the staff in his hands, and swore to him, saying: "Now let Zeus himself, the loud-thundering lord of Hera, be my witness, that on those horses no other man of the Trojans will mount, but it is you, I declare, who will have glory in them continually."

So he spoke, and swore to it a vain oath, and stirred the heart of Dolon. Immediately then he cast about his shoulders his curved bow, and over it he put on the skin of a gray wolf, and on his head he set a cap of ferret skin, and grasped a sharp javelin, and set out to go toward the ships from the camp; but he was not to return again from the ships and bring back word to Hector. But when he had left the throng of horses and of men, he went out eagerly on the way, and Odysseus, sprung from Zeus, caught sight of him as he came up, and spoke to Diomedes: "There is someone, Diomedes, coming from the camp, I know not whether as a spy on our ships, or with intent to strip one of the corpses of the dead. But let us let him first pass by us on the plain a little way, and then let us rush at him and seize him quickly; but if he outruns the two of us by speed of foot, constantly keep hemming him in toward the ships away from the camp, darting after him with your spear, lest somehow he escape toward the city."

- ὧς ἄρα φωνήσαντε παρέξ ὁδοῦ ἐν νεκύεσσι<sup>11</sup>  
 350 κλινθήτην· ὁ δ' ἄρ' ὦκα παρέδραμεν ἀφραδίῃσιν.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἀπέην ὅσσον τ' ἐπὶ οὔρα πέλονται  
 ἡμιόνων—αἱ γάρ τε βοῶν προφερέστεραί εἰσιν  
 ἐλκόμεναι νειοῖο βαθείης πηκτὸν ἄροτρον—  
 τὼ μὲν ἐπεδραμέτην, ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἔστη δοῦπον ἀκούσας·  
 355 ἔλπετο γὰρ κατὰ θυμὸν ἀποστρέφοντας ἐταίρους  
 ἐκ Τρώων ἰέναι, πάλιν Ἑκτορος ὀτρύναντος.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἀπείσαν δουρηνεκὲς ἥ καὶ ἔλασσον,  
 γνῶ ῥ' ἄνδρας δηίους, λαυψηρὰ δὲ γούνατ' ἐνώμα  
 φευγέμεναι· τοὶ δ' αἶψα διώκειν ὀρμήθησαν.  
 360 ὥς δ' ὅτε καρχαρόδοντε δύω κύνε, εἰδότε θήρης,  
 ἥ κεμᾶδ' ἥε λαγῶν ἐπείγετον ἐμμενὲς αἰεὶ  
 χῶρον ἀν' ὑλήενθ', ὁ δέ τε προθέησι μεμηκώς,  
 ὥς τὸν Τυδεΐδης ἥδ' ὁ πτολίπορθος Ὀδυσσεὺς  
 λαοῦ ἀποτμήξαντε διώκετον ἐμμενὲς αἰεὶ.  
 365 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ τάχ' ἔμελλε μιγήσεσθαι φυλάκεσσι  
 φεύγων ἐς νῆας, τότε δὴ μένος ἔμβαλ' Ἀθήνη  
 Τυδεΐδῃ, ἵνα μή τις Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων  
 φθαίῃ ἐπευξάμενος βαλέειν, ὁ δὲ δεύτερος ἔλθοι.  
 δουρὶ δ' ἐπαῖσσω προσέφη κρατερὸς Διομήδης·  
 370 “ἥε μὲν, ἥε σε δουρὶ κιχήσομαι, οὐδέ σέ φημι  
 δηρὸν ἐμῆς ἀπὸ χειρὸς ἀλύξειν αἰπὺν ὄλεθρον.”  
 Ἡ ῥα, καὶ ἔγχος ἀφῆκεν, ἐκὼν δ' ἡμάρτανε φωτός·  
 δεξιτερὸν δ' ὑπὲρ ὦμον εὖζου δουρὸς ἀκωκὴ  
 ἐν γαίῃ ἐπάγη. ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἔστη τάρβησέν τε

<sup>11</sup> In place of line 349 Aristophanes gave,

So saying the two of them laid themselves down among the dead away from the path, but he ran quickly past them in his folly. But when he was as far off as is the range of mules in ploughing—for they are better than oxen to draw through deep fallow land the jointed plough—then the two ran after him, and he stood still when he heard the sound, for in his heart he hoped that they were friends coming from among the Trojans to turn him back, and that Hector was withdrawing the army. But when they were a spear-cast off or even less, he knew them for foes and plied his limbs swiftly in flight, and they speedily set out in pursuit. And as when two sharp-fanged hounds, skilled in the hunt, press in on a doe or a hare in a wooded place, and it runs screaming before them; so did the son of Tydeus, and Odysseus, sacker of cities, cut Dolon off from the army and constantly pursue him. But when he was just about to come among the sentinels, as he fled toward the ships, then it was that Athene put force into Tydeus' son, so that no man among the bronze-clad Achaeans might boast to have dealt the blow before he did, and he come too late. And rushing on him with his spear mighty Diomedes spoke to him: "Stand, or I shall catch you with the spear, and I say you will not long escape sheer destruction at my hand."

He spoke, and hurled his spear, but purposely missed the man, and over his right shoulder passed the point of the polished spear, and fixed itself in the earth; and Dolon

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ὡς ἔφατ' οὐδ' ἀπίθησε βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης.  
ἐλθόντες δ' ἐκάτερθε παρέξ ὁδοῦ ἐν νεκύεσσιν

- 375 βαμβαίνων, ἄραβος δὲ διὰ στόμα γίγνεται ὀδόντων,  
 χλωρὸς ὑπαὶ δείους· τῶ δ' ἀσθμαίνοντε κιχήτην,  
 χειρῶν δ' ἀψάσθην· ὁ δὲ δακρύσας ἔπος ηὔδα·  
 “ζωγρεῖτ', αὐτὰρ ἐγὼν ἐμὲ λύσομαι· ἔστι γὰρ ἔνδον  
 χαλκός τε χρυσός τε πολὺκμητός τε σίδηρος,  
 380 τῶν κ' ὕμιν χαρίσαιο πατήρ ἀπερείσι' ἄποινα,  
 εἴ κεν ἐμὲ ζῶν πεπύθοιτ' ἐπὶ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.”

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

- “θάρσει, μηδέ τί τοι θάνατος καταθύμιος ἔστω.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἰπὲ καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατάλεξον·  
 385 πῇ δὴ οὕτως ἐπὶ νῆας ἀπὸ στρατοῦ ἔρχεαι οἶος  
 νύκτα δι' ὀρφναίην, ὅτε θ' εὐδουσι βροτοὶ ἄλλοι;  
 ἦ τίνα συλήσων νεκύων κατατεθνηώτων;<sup>12</sup>  
 ἦ σ' Ἐκτωρ προέηκε διασκοπιᾶσθαι ἕκαστα  
 νῆας ἔπι γλαφυράς; ἦ σ' αὐτὸν θυμὸς ἀνῆκε;”  
 390 Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Δόλων, ὑπὸ δ' ἔτρεμε γυῖα·  
 “πολλῇσιν μ' ἄτησι παρέκ νόον ἤγαγεν<sup>13</sup> Ἐκτωρ,  
 ὅς μοι Πηλεΐωνος ἀγανού μώνυχας ἵππους  
 δωσέμεναι κατένευσε καὶ ἄρματα ποικίλα χαλκῶ,  
 ἠνώγει δέ μ' ἰόντα θοὴν διὰ νύκτα μέλαιναν  
 395 ἀνδρῶν δυσμενέων σχεδὸν ἐλθέμεν, ἔκ τε πύθεσθαι  
 ἢ ἐφυλάσσονται νῆες θοαὶ ὥς τὸ πάρος περ,  
 ἦ ἤδη χεῖρεσσιν ὑφ' ἡμετέρησι δαμέντες<sup>14</sup>  
 φύξιν βουλεύουσι μετὰ σφίσιν, οὐδ' ἐθέλουσι  
 νύκτα φυλασσέμεναι, καμάτῳ ἀδηκότες αἰνῶ.”

<sup>12</sup> Lines 387 f. were rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

stood still, seized with terror, stammering and pale with fear, and the chattering of his teeth was heard through his lips; and the two panting for breath came on him, and seized his hands; and he burst into tears and spoke to them, saying: "Take me alive, and I will ransom myself; for at home have I bronze and gold and iron worked with much toil; from these would my father grant you ransom past counting, if he should hear that I am alive at the ships of the Achaeans."

In answer to him spoke Odysseus of many wiles: "Take heart, and let not death be in your thoughts. But come, tell me this, and declare it truly. Where are you going to the ships from the camp alone like this in the murky night, when other mortals are sleeping? Is it with intent to strip one of the corpses of the dead? Did Hector send you to the hollow ships to spy out all, or did your own heart set you to it?"

To him then Dolon made answer, and his limbs trembled beneath him: "With many empty hopes did Hector lead my mind astray, who pledged to give me the single-hoofed horses of the lordly son of Peleus, and his chariot richly inlaid with bronze; and he commanded me to go through the swift, black night close to the foe, and find out whether the swift ships are guarded as before, or whether by now, vanquished at our hands, our foes are planning flight among themselves, and are not minded to watch the night through, being worn out with dread weariness."

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<sup>13</sup> ἤγαγεν: ἤπαφεν Aristophanes.

<sup>14</sup> Lines 397–399 were rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

400 Τὸν δ' ἐπιμειδήσας προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

“ἦ ρά νύ τοι μεγάλων δώρων ἐπεμαίετο θυμός,  
ἵππων Αἰακίδαο δαΐφρονος· οἱ δ' ἀλεγεινοὶ  
ἀνδράσι γε θνητοῖσι δαμήμεναι ἢ δ' ὀχέεσθαι,  
ἄλλω γ' ἢ Ἀχιλῇι, τὸν ἀθανάτη τέκε μήτηρ.

405 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἶπε καὶ ἀτρεκέως κατάλεξον·  
ποῦ νῦν δεῦρο κιὼν λίπες Ἴκτορα, ποιμένα λαῶν;  
ποῦ δέ οἱ ἔντεα κείται ἀρήια, ποῦ δέ οἱ ἵπποι;  
πῶς δ' αἱ τῶν ἄλλων Τρώων φυλακαὶ τε καὶ εὐναί;  
ἄσσα τε μητιόωσι μετὰ σφίσιν, ἢ μεμάασιν<sup>15</sup>  
410 αὖθι μένειν παρὰ νηυσὶν ἀπόπροθεν, ἧε πόλινδε  
ἄψ ἀναχωρήσουσιν, ἐπεὶ δαμάσαντό γ' Ἀχαιοὺς.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Δόλων, Εὐμήδεος υἱός·  
“τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ τοι ταῦτα μάλ' ἀτρεκέως καταλέξω.  
Ἴκτωρ μὲν μετὰ τοῖσιν, ὅσοι βουλευφόροι εἰσὶ,  
415 βουλὰς βουλεύει θείου παρὰ σήματι Ἴλου,  
νόσφιν ἀπὸ φλοίσβου· φυλακὰς δ' ἅς εἴρεαι, ἥρως,  
οὐ τις κεκριμένη ρύεται στρατὸν οὐδὲ φυλάσσει.  
ὅσσαι μὲν Τρώων πυρὸς ἐσχάrai, οἷσιν ἀνάγκη,  
οἱ δ' ἐγρηγόρθασιν φυλασσέμεναί τε κέλονται  
420 ἀλλήλοισι· ἀτὰρ αὖτε πολύκλητοι ἐπίκουροι  
εὖδουσι· Τρωσὶν γὰρ ἐπιτραπέουσι φυλάσσειν·  
οὐ γάρ σφιν παῖδες σχεδὸν ἦαται οὐδὲ γυναῖκες.”

Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·

“πῶς γὰρ νῦν, Τρώεσσι μεμιγμένοι ἵπποδάμοισιν  
425 εὖδουσ', ἧ ἀπάνευθε; δίειπέ μοι, ὄφρα δαείω.”

## BOOK 10

Then smiling on him Odysseus of many wiles made answer: "Surely on great rewards was your heart set, on the horses of the battle-minded grandson of Aeacus, but hard are they for mortal men to master or to drive, save only for Achilles whom an immortal mother bore. But come, tell me this, and declare it truly: where now, as you came here, did you leave Hector, shepherd of men? Where lies his battle gear, and where his horses? And how are the watches and the sleeping places of the other Trojans? And what counsel do they devise among themselves? Do they intend to remain where they are by the ships far from the city, or to withdraw again to the city, since they have vanquished the Achaeans?"

Then made answer to him Dolon, son of Eumedes: "Well then, I will truly tell you these things. Hector with all those who are counselors is holding council by the tomb of godlike Ilus, away from the turmoil; but as for the guards of whom you ask, warrior, no special guard keeps or watches the army. By all the watch fires of the Trojans, those who must are lying awake and tell one another to keep watch, but the allies, summoned from many lands, are sleeping; for to the Trojans they leave it to keep watch, for their own children are not near, nor their wives."

In answer to him spoke Odysseus of many wiles: "How is it now? Do they sleep mingled with the horse-taming Trojans, or apart? Tell me exactly so that I may know."

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<sup>15</sup> Lines 409–411 (= 208–210) were rejected by Aristarchus.

- Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Δόλων, Εὐμήδεος υἱός·  
 “τοιγὰρ ἐγὼ καὶ ταῦτα μάλ' ἀτρεκέως καταλέξω.  
 πρὸς μὲν ἀλὸς Κᾶρες καὶ Παῖονες ἀγκυλότοξοι  
 καὶ Λέλεγες καὶ Καύκωνες δῖοί τε Πελασγοί,  
 430 πρὸς Θύμβρης δ' ἔλαχον Λύκιοι Μυσοί τ' ἀγέρωχοι  
 καὶ Φρύγες ἱππόμαχοι<sup>16</sup> καὶ Μήονες ἱπποκορυσταί.  
 ἀλλὰ τί ἦ ἐμὲ ταῦτα διεξερέεσθε ἕκαστα;  
 εἰ γὰρ δὴ μέματον Τρώων καταδύναι ὄμιλον,  
 Θρήικες οἷδ' ἀπάνευθε νεήλυδες, ἔσχατοι ἄλλων·  
 435 ἐν δέ σφιν Ῥήσος βασιλεύς, πάις Ἡιονῆος.  
 τοῦ δὴ καλλίστους ἵππους ἴδον ἡδὲ μεγίστους·  
 λευκότεροι χιόνος, θείειν δ' ἀνέμοισιν ὁμοῖοι.  
 ἄρμα δέ οἱ χρυσῷ τε καὶ ἀργύρῳ εὖ ἥσκηται·  
 τεύχεα δὲ χρύσεια πελώρια, θαῦμα ἰδέσθαι,  
 440 ἦλνθ' ἔχων. τὰ μὲν οὐ τι καταθνητοῖσιν ἔοικεν  
 ἀνδρεσσιν φορέειν, ἀλλ' ἀθανάτοισι θεοῖσιν.  
 ἀλλ' ἐμὲ μὲν νῦν νηυσὶ πελάσσετον ὠκνύοροισιν,  
 ἡέ με δήσαντες λίπετ' αὐτόθι νηλεί δεσμῷ,  
 ὄφρα κεν ἔλθῃτον καὶ πειρηθῇτον ἐμείο,  
 445 ἡέ κατ' αἶσαν ἔειπον ἐν ὑμῖν, ἦε καὶ οὐκί.”  
 Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη κρατερὸς Διο-  
 μήδης·  
 “μὴ δὴ μοι φύξιν γε, Δόλων, ἐμβάλλεο θυμῷ,  
 ἐσθλά περ ἀγγείλας, ἐπεὶ ἔκεο χεῖρας ἐς ἀμάς.  
 εἰ μὲν γάρ κέ σε νῦν ἀπολύσομεν ἡέ μεθῶμεν,  
 450 ἦ τε καὶ ὕστερον εἴσθα θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν,  
 ἡέ διοπτεύσων ἡ ἐναντίβιον πολεμίζων·  
 εἰ δέ κ' ἐμῆς ὑπὸ χερσὶ δαμείς ἀπὸ θυμὸν ὀλέσσης,



Then made answer to him Dolon, son of Eumedes: "Well then, I will truly tell you these things also. Towards the sea lie the Carians and the Paeonians, with curved bows, and the Leleges and Caucones, and the noble Pelasgi. And towards Thymbre fell the lot of the Lycians and the lordly Mysians, and the Phrygians that fight from chariots and the Maeonians, lords of chariots. But why is it that you question me in detail regarding all these things? For if you are eager to enter the throng of the Trojans, here apart are the Thracians, newcomers, the outermost of all, and among them their king Rhesus, son of Eïoneus. His are surely the fairest horses that ever I saw, and the greatest, whiter than snow, and in speed like the winds. And his chariot is skilfully worked with gold and silver, and armor of gold he brought with him, huge of size, a wonder to look on. Such armor it is not right that mortal men should wear, but immortal gods. But take me now to the swift-faring ships, or bind me with a cruel bond and leave me here, so that you may go and make trial of me, whether or not I have spoken to you rightly."

Then with an angry glance mighty Diomedes addressed him: "Dolon, do not put any thought of escape in your heart, even though you have reported good news since you have come into our hands. For if we release you now or let you go, yet later on you will come to the swift ships of the Achaeans, either to spy on us, or to fight in open combat; but if, vanquished by my hands, you lose

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<sup>16</sup> ἱππόμαχοι: ἱππόδαμοι.

οὐκέτ' ἔπειτα σὺ πῆμά ποτ' ἔσσειαι Ἀργείοισιν."

- Ἦ, καὶ ὁ μὲν μιν ἔμελλε γενεῖον χειρὶ παχείῃ  
 455 ἀψάμενος λίσσεσθαι, ὁ δ' αὐχένα μέσσον ἔλασσε  
 φασγάνῳ αἶξας, ἀπὸ δ' ἄμφω κέρσε τένοντε·  
 φθεγγομένου δ' ἄρα τοῦ γε κάρη κονίησιν ἐμίχθη.  
 τοῦ δ' ἀπὸ μὲν κτιδέην κυνέην κεφαλῇφιν ἔλοντο  
 καὶ λυκὴν καὶ τόξα παλίντονα καὶ δόρυ μακρόν·  
 460 καὶ τά γ' Ἀθηναίῃ ληίτιδι δῖος Ὀδυσσεὺς  
 ὑψόσ' ἀνέσχεθε χειρὶ καὶ εὐχόμενος ἔπος ηὔδα·  
 "χαῖρε, θεά, τοῖσδεσσι· σέ γάρ πρῶτην ἐν Ὀλύμπῳ  
 πάντων ἀθανάτων ἐπιβωσόμεθ'·<sup>17</sup> ἀλλὰ καὶ αὐτὶς  
 πέμψον ἐπὶ Θρηκῶν ἀνδρῶν ἵππους τε καὶ εὐνάς."  
 465 Ὡς ἄρ' ἐφώνησεν, καὶ ἀπὸ ἔθην ὑψόσ' αἰέρας  
 θῆκεν ἀνὰ μυρίκην· δέελον δ' ἐπὶ σῆμά τ' ἔθηκε,  
 συμμάρψας δόνακας μυρίκης τ' ἐριθιλέας ὄζους,  
 μὴ λάθοι αὐτὶς ἰόντε θοὴν διὰ νύκτα μέλαιναν.  
 τῷ δὲ βάτην προτέρῳ διὰ τ' ἔντεα καὶ μέλαν αἶμα,  
 470 αἶψα δ' ἐπὶ Θρηκῶν ἀνδρῶν τέλος ἵξον ἰόντες.  
 οἱ δ' εὐδον καμάτῳ ἀδηκότες, ἔντεα δέ σφιν  
 καλὰ παρ' αὐτοῖσι χθονὶ κέκλιτο εὖ κατὰ κόσμον  
 τριστοιχί· παρὰ δέ σφιν ἐκάστῳ δίζυγες ἵπποι.  
 Ῥῆσος δ' ἐν μέσῳ εὐδε, παρ' αὐτῷ δ' ὠκέες ἵπποι  
 475 ἐξ ἐπιδιφριάδος πυμάτης ἱμάσι δέδεντο.  
 τὸν δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς προπάροιθεν ἰδὼν Διομήδεϊ δεῖξεν·  
 "οὗτός τοι, Διόμηδες, ἀνὴρ, οὗτοι δέ τοι ἵπποι,  
 οὓς νῶϊν πίφασκε Δόλων, ὃν ἐπέφνομεν ἡμεῖς.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ πρόφερε κρατερὸν μένος· οὐδέ τί σε χρὴ  
 480 ἐστάμεναι μέλεον σὺν τεύχεσιν, ἀλλὰ λύ' ἵππους·

your life, never again will you prove a bane to the Argives."

He spoke, and the other was about to touch his chin with his stout hand and beg him, but Diomedes sprang on him with his sword and struck him square on the neck, and sheared off both the sinews, and while he was still speaking his head was mingled with the dust. Then from him they took the cap of ferret skin from off his head, and the wolf's hide, and the back-bent bow and the long spear, and these things noble Odysseus held aloft in his hand to Athene, the driver of the spoil, and he made prayer and spoke, saying: "Rejoice, goddess, in these, for to you, first of all the immortals in Olympus, will we call; but send us on against the horses and the sleeping places of the Thracian warriors."

So he spoke, and lifting up the spoils, he set them on a tamarisk bush, and set by it a mark plain to see, gathering handfuls of reeds and luxuriant branches of tamarisk, lest they might miss the place as they came back through the swift, black night. But they went forward through the arms and the black blood, and swiftly came in their course to the company of Thracian warriors. Now these were slumbering, worn out with toil, and their fair battle gear lay by them on the ground, all in good order, in three rows, and by each man was his yoke of horses. But Rhesus slept in their midst, and by him his swift horses were tethered by the reins to the topmost rim of the chariot. Him Odysseus was first to see, and pointed him out to Diomedes: "Here, Diomedes, here is the man, and here are the horses of which Dolon, whom we slew, told us. But come now, put forth mighty strength; you must not stand idly by with your

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<sup>17</sup> ἐπιβασόμεθ': ἐπιδωσόμεθ' Aristarchus.

ἤε σύ γ' ἄνδρας ἔναιρε, μελήσουσιν δ' ἐμοὶ ἵπποι.”

“Ὡς φάτο, τῷ δ' ἔμπνευσε μένος γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη,  
κτεῖνε δ' ἐπιστροφάδην· τῶν δὲ στόνος ὄρνυτ' αἰκῆς  
ἄορι θεινομένων, ἐρυθαίνεται δ' αἵματι γαῖα.

485 ὥς δὲ λέων μῆλοισιν ἀσημάντοισιν ἐπελθών,  
αἷγεςιν ἢ οἶεσσι, κακὰ φρονέων ἐνορούση,  
ὥς μὲν Θρήικας ἄνδρας ἐπώχετο Τυδέος υἱός,  
ὄφρα δυνώδεκ' ἔπεφνεν· ἀτὰρ πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς,  
ὃν τινα Τυδείδης ἄορι πλήξειε παραστάς,  
490 τὸν δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς μετόπισθε λαβὼν ποδὸς ἐξερύσασκε,  
τὰ φρονέων κατὰ θυμόν, ὅπως καλλίτριχες ἵπποι  
ρεῖα διέλθοιεν μηδὲ τρομεοῖατο θυμῷ  
νεκροῖς ἐμβαίνοντες· ἀήθεσσοι γὰρ ἔτ' αὐτῶν.

ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ βασιλῆα κιχήσατο Τυδέος υἱός,  
495 τὸν τρισκαιδέκατον μελιηδέα θυμὸν ἀπηύρα  
ἀσθμαίνοντα· κακὸν γὰρ ὄναρ κεφαλῇφιν ἐπέστη  
τὴν νύκτ', Οἰνείδαο πάις, διὰ μῆτιν Ἀθήνης.<sup>18</sup>  
τόφρα δ' ἄρ' ὁ τλήμων Ὀδυσσεὺς λύε μώνυχας ἵππους,  
σὺν δ' ἥειρεν ἱμάσι καὶ ἐξήλαυνεν ὁμίλου  
500 τόξῳ ἐπιπλήσσων, ἐπεὶ οὐ μάστιγα φαεινὴν  
ποικίλου ἐκ δίφροιο νοήσατο χερσὶν ἐλέσθαι·  
ροίζησεν δ' ἄρα πιφαύσκων Διομήδεϊ δίῳ.

Αὐτὰρ ὁ μερμήριζε μένων ὃ τι κύντατον ἔρδοι,  
ἢ ὃ γε δίφρον ἐλών, ὅθι ποικίλα τεύχε' ἐκέιτο,  
505 ῥυμοῦ ἐξερύοι ἢ ἐκφέροι ὑψόσ' αἰείρας,

<sup>18</sup> Line 497 was rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

## BOOK 10

weapons; but loose the horses; or you slay the men, and I will look to the horses."

So he spoke, and into him flashing-eyed Athene breathed might, and he fell to slaying on this side and on that, and from them rose up hideous groaning as they were struck with the sword, and the earth grew red with blood. And just as a lion comes on flocks unshepherded, on goats or sheep, and leaps on them with evil intent, so after the Thracian warriors went the son of Tydeus until he had slain twelve. But whomever the son of Tydeus came up to and struck with the sword, him would Odysseus of the many wiles seize by the foot from behind and drag aside, with this thought in mind, that the fair-maned horses might easily pass through and not take fright at heart as they trod over dead men; for they were as yet unused to them. But when the son of Tydeus came to the king, him the thirteenth he robbed of honey-sweet life, breathing heavily, for an evil dream stood over his head that night, the son of Oeneus' son,<sup>3</sup> by the device of Athene. Meanwhile steadfast Odysseus loosed the single-hoofed horses and bound them together with the reins, and drove them out from the throng, striking them with his bow, since he had not thought to take in his hands the bright whip from the richly inlaid chariot; and he whistled to give a sign to noble Diomedes.

But Diomedes stayed there and debated what most reckless deed he might do, whether to take the chariot in which lay the richly inlaid war gear, and draw it out by the pole, or lift it on high and so carry it out; or whether he

<sup>3</sup> Tydeus, father of Diomedes, was son of Oeneus. M.

- ἦ ἔτι τῶν πλεόνων Θρηκῶν ἀπὸ θυμὸν ἔλοιτο.  
 ἦος ὁ ταῦθ' ὥρμαινε κατὰ φρένα, τόφρα δ' Ἀθήνη  
 ἐγγύθεν ἱσταμένη προσέφη Διομήδεα δῖον·  
 “νόστου δὴ μνήσαι, μεγαθύμου Τυδέος υἱέ,  
 510 νῆας ἔπι γλαφυράς, μὴ καὶ πεφοβημένος ἔλθης,  
 μή πού τις καὶ Τρώας ἐγείρῃσιν θεὸς ἄλλος.”  
 ὧς φάθ', ὁ δὲ ξυνέηκε θεᾶς ὅπα φωνησάσης,  
 καρπαλίμως δ' ἵππων ἐπεβήσετο· κόψε δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς  
 τόξῳ· τοὶ δ' ἐπέτοντο θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.  
 515 Οὐδ' ἀλαοσκοπιὴν εἶχ' ἀργυρότοξος Ἀπόλλων,  
 ὡς ἴδ' Ἀθηναίην μετὰ Τυδέος υἱὸν ἔπουσαν·  
 τῇ κοτέων Τρώων κατεδύσετο πουλὺν ὄμιλον,  
 ὥρσεν δὲ Θρηκῶν βουληφόρον Ἴπποκόωντα,  
 Ῥήσου ἀνεψιὸν ἐσθλόν· ὁ δ' ἐξ ὕπνου ἀνορούσας,  
 520 ὡς ἴδε χῶρον ἐρῆμον, ὅθ' ἔστασαν ὠκέες ἵπποι,  
 ἄνδρας τ' ἀσπαίροντας ἐν ἀργαλέῃσι φονῇσιν,  
 ὦμωξέν τ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα φίλον τ' ὀνόμηνεν ἐταῖρον.<sup>19</sup>  
 Τρώων δὲ κλαγγή τε καὶ ἄσπετος ὥρτο κυδοιμὸς  
 θυνόντων ἄμυδις· θηεῦντο δὲ μέρμερα ἔργα,  
 525 ὅσος ἄνδρες ῥέξαντες ἔβαν κοίλας ἐπὶ νῆας.  
 Οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ ῥ' ἵκανον ὅθι σκοπὸν Ἑκτορος ἔκταν,  
 ἐνθ' Ὀδυσσεὺς μὲν ἔρυξε διίφιλος ὠκέας ἵππους,  
 Τυδεΐδης δὲ χαμάζε θορῶν ἕναρα βροτόεντα  
 ἐν χείρεσσ' Ὀδυσῇ τίθει, ἐπεβήσετο δ' ἵππων·  
 530 μάστιξεν δ' ἵππους,<sup>20</sup> τῷ δ' οὐκ ἀέκοντε πετέσθην  
 νῆας ἔπι γλαφυράς· τῇ γὰρ φίλον ἔπλετο θυμῷ.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Line 522 was placed by Zenodotus before 520.

should rather take the lives of yet more Thracians. While he was pondering this in his mind, then Athene came up to noble Diomedes and spoke to him: "Take thought now of returning, son of great-hearted Tydeus, to the hollow ships, for fear you go there in full flight, and perhaps some other god rouse up the Trojans."

So she spoke, and he heeded the voice of the goddess, and swiftly mounted the horses; and Odysseus struck them with his bow, and they sped toward the swift ships of the Achaeans.

But no blind watch did Apollo of the silver bow keep when he saw Athene attending the son of Tydeus; in anger against her he entered the great throng of the Trojans, and roused a counselor of the Thracians, Hippocoön, the noble kinsman of Rhesus. And he leapt up out of sleep, and when he saw the place empty where the swift horses had stood, and the men gasping among gruesome streams of blood, then he uttered a groan, and called on his dear comrade by name. And from the Trojans arose a clamor and boundless confusion as they rushed together; and they gazed on all the grim deeds that the warriors had done before they went back to the hollow ships.

But when these came to the place where they had slain Hector's spy, then Odysseus, dear to Zeus, stayed the swift horses, and the son of Tydeus leaping to the ground placed the blood-stained spoils in the hands of Odysseus, and again mounted; and he touched the horses with the whip, and nothing loath the pair flew on to the hollow ships, for

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<sup>20</sup> ἕππους: Ὀδυσσεύς.

<sup>21</sup> Line 531 is omitted in the best mss.

- Νέστωρ δὲ πρῶτος κτύπον αἶε φώνησέν τε·  
 “ὦ φίλοι, Ἀργείων ἡγήτορες ἡδὲ μέδοντες,  
 ψεύσομαι, ἥ ἔτυμον ἐρέω; κέλεται δέ με θυμός.<sup>22</sup>  
 535 ἵππων μὲν ὠκυπόδων ἀμφὶ κτύπος οὐατα βάλλει.  
 αἶ γὰρ δὴ Ὀδυσσεύς τε καὶ ὁ κρατερὸς Διομήδης  
 ὦδ’ ἄφαρ ἐκ Τρώων ἐλασαίατο μώνυχας ἵππους·  
 ἀλλ’ αἰνῶς δειδοίκα κατὰ φρένα μή τι πάθωσιν  
 Ἀργείων οἱ ἄριστοι ὑπὸ Τρώων ὀρυμαγδοῦ.”  
 540 Οὐ πῶ πάν εἶρητο ἔπος, ὅτ’ ἄρ’ ἦλυνθον αὐτοί.  
 καὶ ῥ’ οἱ μὲν κατέβησαν ἐπὶ χθόνα, τοῖ δὲ χαρέντες  
 δεξιῇ ἡσπάζοντο ἔπεσσί τε μελιχίοισι.  
 πρῶτος δ’ ἐξερέεινε Γερήνιος ἱππότης Νέστωρ·  
 “εἶπ’ ἄγε μὲν, ὦ πολύαιν’ Ὀδυσεῦ, μέγα κῦδος Ἀχαιῶν,  
 545 ὅππως τούσδ’ ἵππους λάβετον· καταδύντες ὄμιλον  
 Τρώων; ἥ τίς σφωε πόρεν θεὸς ἀντιβολήσας;  
 αἰνῶς ἀκτίνεσσιν ἐοικότες ἡελίοιο.  
 αἰεὶ μὲν Τρώεσσ’ ἐπιμίσγομαι, οὐδέ τί φημι  
 μιμνάζειν παρὰ νηυσὶ γέρων περ ἐὼν πολεμιστής·  
 550 ἀλλ’ οὐ πῶ τοίους ἵππους ἴδον οὐδ’ ἐνόησα.  
 ἀλλὰ τιν’ ὕμμ’ οἶω δόμεναι θεὸν ἀντιάσαντα·  
 ἀμφοτέρω γὰρ σφῶι φιλεῖ νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς  
 κούρη τ’ αἰγιόχοιο Διὸς γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη.”  
 Τὸν δ’ ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσ-  
 σεύς·  
 555 “ὦ Νέστορ Νηληιάδη, μέγα κῦδος Ἀχαιῶν,  
 ῥεῖα θεός γ’ ἐθέλων καὶ ἀμείνονας ἡέ περ οἶδε  
 ἵππους δωρήσαιτ’, ἐπεὶ ἥ πολὺν φέρτεροί εἰσιν.



there were they eager to be. And Nestor was first to hear the sound, and he spoke, saying: "My friends, leaders and rulers of the Argives, will I be mistaken, or be speaking truly? My heart tells me to speak. The sound of swift-footed horses strikes my ears. I hope that so speedily Odysseus and the mighty Diomedes have driven here single-hoofed horses out from among the Trojans; but dreadfully do I fear in my heart that those best of the Argives have suffered some harm through the battle din of the Trojans."

Not yet was the word fully uttered, when they came themselves. Down they leapt to the ground, and the others were seized with joy and welcomed them with hand-clasps and with gentle words. And the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, was the first to question them: "Come tell me now, Odysseus, greatly to be praised, great glory of the Achaeans, how you two took these horses. Was it by entering the throng of the Trojans? Or did some god meet you and give you them? Dreadfully are they like rays of the sun. I constantly mix in battle with the Trojans, and I can say that I do not hold back at all by the ships, old warrior though I am; but never yet have I seen or imagined such horses. But I suspect some god has met you and given you them; for both of you are loved by Zeus the cloud-gatherer and the daughter of Zeus who bears the aegis, flashing-eyed Athene."

In answer spoke to him Odysseus of many wiles: "Nestor, son of Neleus, great glory of the Achaeans, easily might a god if he wished bestow even better horses than these, since the gods are mightier far. But these horses, old

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<sup>22</sup> Line 534 was omitted by Zenodotus.

ἵπποι δ' οἶδε, γεραιέ, νεήλυδες, οὓς ἐρεείνεις,  
 Θρηϊκίοι· τὸν δέ σφιν ἄνακτ' ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης  
 560 ἔκτανε, παρ δ' ἐτάρους δυοκαίδεκα πάντας ἀρίστους.  
 τὸν τρισκαιδέκατον σκοπὸν εἵλομεν ἐγγύθι νηῶν,  
 τόν ῥα διοπτῆρα στρατοῦ ἔμμεναι ἡμετέροιο  
 Ἔκτωρ τε προέηκε καὶ ἄλλοι Τρῶες ἀγανοί.”

ἌΩς εἰπὼν τάφροιο διήλασε μώνυχας ἵππους  
 565 καγχαλόων· ἅμα δ' ἄλλοι ἴσαν χαίροντες Ἀχαιοί.  
 οἱ δ' ὅτε Τυδεΐδew κλισίην ἐντυκτον ἴκοντο,  
 ἵππους μὲν κατέδησαν ἐντμήτοισιν ἱμάσι  
 φάτνη ἐφ' ἱππείῃ, ὅθι περ Διομήδεος ἵπποι  
 ἔστασαν ὠκύποδες μελιηδέα πυρὸν ἔδοντες·  
 570 νηὶ δ' ἐνὶ πρυμνῇ ἕναρα βροτόεντα Δόλωνος  
 θῆκ' Ὀδυσεύς, ὅφρ' ἱρὸν ἐτοιμασσαίατ' Ἀθήνη.  
 αὐτοὶ δ' ἰδρῶ πολλὸν ἀπενίζοντο θαλάσση  
 ἐσβάντες κνήμας τε ἰδὲ λόφον ἀμφί τε μηρούς.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ σφιν κῦμα θαλάσσης ἰδρῶ πολλὸν  
 575 νύψεν ἀπὸ χρωτὸς καὶ ἀνέψυχθεν φίλον ἦτορ,  
 ἔς ῥ' ἀσαμίνθους βάντες ἐυξέστας λούσαντο.  
 τὼ δὲ λοεσσαμένω καὶ ἀλειψαμένω λίπ' ἐλαίῳ  
 δείπνω ἐφιζανέτην, ἀπὸ δὲ κρητῆρος Ἀθήνη  
 πλείον ἀφυσσόμενοι λείβον μελιηδέα οἶνον.

## BOOK 10

sir, of which you ask, are newly come from Thrace, and their lord brave Diomedes slew, and beside him twelve of his comrades, all those who were the best. And for the thirteenth we slew a scout near the ships, one whom Hector and the other lordly Trojans had sent out to spy on our camp."

So he spoke, and drove the single-hoofed horses through the trench, exulting, and with him went rejoicing the rest of the Achaeans. But when they came to the well-built hut of the son of Tydeus, the horses they bound with shapely thongs at the manger where stood the swift-footed horses of Diomedes, eating honey-sweet grain. And on the stern of his ship did Odysseus place the blood-stained spoils of Dolon until they should prepare a sacred offering to Athene. But for themselves they entered the sea and washed away the abundant sweat from shins and necks and thighs. And when the wave of the sea had washed the abundant sweat from their skin, and their hearts were refreshed, they went into polished baths and bathed. But when they had bathed and anointed themselves richly with oil, they sat down to a meal, and from the full mixing bowl they drew off honey-sweet wine and poured it to Athene.

# Λ

- Ἦως δ' ἐκ λεχέων παρ' ἀγανού Τιθωνοῖο  
 ὄρνυθ', ἵν' ἀθανάτοισι φόως φέροι ἡδὲ βροτοῖσι·  
 Ζεὺς δ' Ἑριδα προΐαλλε θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἀργαλέην, πολέμοιο τέρας μετὰ χερσὶν ἔχουσαν.
- 5    στή δ' ἐπ' Ὀδυσσῆος μεγακῆτεϊ νηὶ μελαίνῃ,  
 ἣ ῥ' ἐν μεσσάτῳ ἔσκε γεγωνέμεν ἀμφοτέρωσε,  
 ἡμὲν ἐπ' Αἴαντος κλισίας Τελαμωνιάδαο  
 ἡδ' ἐπ' Ἀχιλλῆος, τοί ῥ' ἔσχατα νῆας εἰσας  
 εἵρυσαν, ἡγορέῃ πίσυνοι καὶ κάρτεϊ χειρῶν.
- 10    ἔνθα στᾶσ' ἦυσε θεὰ μέγα τε δεινόν τε  
 ὄρθι, Ἀχαιοῖσιν δὲ μέγα σθένος ἔμβαλ' ἐκάστῳ  
 καρδίῃ, ἄλληκτον πολεμίζειν ἡδὲ μάχεσθαι.  
 τοῖσι δ' ἄφαρ πόλεμος γλυκίων γένετ' ἢ νέεσθαι<sup>1</sup>  
 ἐν νηυσὶ γλαφυρῇσι φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαίαν.
- 15    Ἀτρεΐδης δ' ἐβόησεν ἰδὲ ζώννυσθαι ἄνωγεν  
 Ἀργείους· ἐν δ' αὐτὸς ἐδύσετο νώροπα χαλκόν.  
 κνημίδας μὲν πρῶτα περὶ κνήμησιν ἔθηκε  
 καλὰς, ἀργυρέοισιν ἐπισφυρίοις ἀραρυίας·  
 δεύτερον αὖ θώρηκα περὶ στήθεσσιν ἔδυνε,
- 20    τὸν ποτέ οἱ Κινύρης δῶκε ξεινήιον εἶναι.

## BOOK 11

Now Dawn rose from her bed from beside lordly Tithonus, to bring light to immortals and to mortal men; and Zeus sent Strife to the swift ships of the Achaeans, gruesome Strife, holding in her hands a portent of war. And she stood by Odysseus' black ship, huge of hull, that was in the middle so that a shout could reach to either end, both to the huts of Aias, son of Telamon, and to those of Achilles; for these had drawn up their shapely ships at the furthest ends, trusting in their valor and the strength of their hands. There the goddess stood and uttered a great and terrible shout, a shrill cry of war, and in the heart of each man of the Achaeans she roused strength to war and to battle without ceasing. And to them at once war became sweeter than to return in their hollow ships to their dear native land.

The son of Atreus shouted aloud, and commanded the Argives to array themselves for battle, and among them he himself put on the gleaming bronze. The greaves first he set about his legs; beautiful they were, and fitted with silver anklepieces; next he put on about his chest the corselet that once Cinyras had given him as a guest-gift. For he

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<sup>1</sup> Lines 13 f. (= 2. 453 f.) were rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

- πεύθετο γὰρ Κύπρονδε μέγα κλέος, οὔνεκ' Ἀχαιοὶ  
 ἐς Τροίην νήεσσιν ἀναπλεύσεσθαι ἔμελλον·  
 τοῦνεκά οἱ τὸν δῶκε χαριζόμενος βασιλῆι.  
 τοῦ δ' ἦ τοι δέκα οἶμοι ἔσαν μέλανος κυάνιοι,  
 25 δώδεκα δὲ χρυσοῖο καὶ εἴκοσι κασσιτέριοι·  
 κυάνεοι δὲ δράκοντες ὀρωρέχατο<sup>2</sup> προτὶ δειρὴν  
 τρεῖς ἐκάτερθ', ἴρισσιν<sup>3</sup> ἐοικότες, ἄς τε Κρονίων  
 ἐν νέφει στήριξε, τέρας μερόπων ἀνθρώπων.  
 ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' ὥμοισιν βάλετο ξίφος· ἐν δέ οἱ ἦλοι  
 30 χρύσειοι πάμφαινον, ἀτὰρ περὶ κουλεὸν ἦεν  
 ἀργύρεον, χρυσέοισιν ἀορτήρεσσιν ἀρηρός.  
 ἂν δ' ἔλετ' ἀμφιβρότην πολυδαίδαλον ἀσπίδα θούριν,  
 καλήν, ἣν πέρι μὲν κύκλοι δέκα χάλκεοι ἦσαν,  
 ἐν δέ οἱ ὀμφαλοὶ ἦσαν ἐείκοσι κασσιτέριοι  
 35 λευκοί, ἐν δὲ μέσοισιν ἔην μέλανος κυάνιοι.  
 τῇ δ' ἐπὶ μὲν Γοργῶ βλοσυρῶπις ἐστεφάνωτο  
 δεινὸν δερκομένη, περὶ δὲ Δεῖμός τε Φόβος τε.  
 τῆς δ' ἐξ ἀργύρεος τελαμῶν ἦν· αὐτὰρ ἐπ' αὐτοῦ  
 κυάνεος ἐλέλικτο δράκων, κεφαλαὶ δέ οἱ ἦσαν  
 40 τρεῖς ἀμφιστρεφέες, ἐνὸς αὐχένος ἐκπεφυυῖαι.  
 κρατὶ δ' ἐπ' ἀμφίφαλον κυνέην θέτο τετραφάληρον  
 ἵππουριν· δεινὸν δὲ λόφος καθύπερθεν ἔνευεν.  
 εἴλετο δ' ἄλκιμα δοῦρε δύω, κεκορυθμένα χαλκῷ,  
 ὀξέα· τῇλε δὲ χαλκὸς ἀπ' αὐτόφιν οὐρανὸν εἴσω  
 45 λάμπ'· ἐπὶ δ' ἐγδούπησαν Ἀθηναίη τε καὶ Ἥρη,  
 τιμῶσαι βασιλῆα πολυχρύσιοι Μυκῆνης.  
 Ἕνιοχῷ μὲν ἔπειτα ἐῷ ἐπέτελλεν ἕκαστος

heard far off in Cyprus the great report that the Achaeans were about to set sail to Troy in their ships, and so he gave him the breastplate as a favor to the king. On it were ten bands of dark cyanus,<sup>1</sup> and twelve of gold, and twenty of tin; and serpents of cyanus writhed up toward the neck, three on either side, like rainbows that the son of Cronos has set in the clouds, a portent for mortal men. And about his shoulders he flung his sword, on which gleamed studs of gold, while the scabbard about it was of silver, fitted with golden chains. And he took up his richly inlaid, furious shield, that sheltered a man on both sides, a fair shield, and round about it were ten circles of bronze, and on it twenty bosses of tin, gleaming white, and in the middle was one of dark cyanus. And on it was set as a crown the Gorgon, grim of aspect, glaring terribly, and about her were Terror and Rout. From the shield was hung a baldric of silver, and on it writhed a serpent of cyanus, that had three heads turned in different directions, growing out from one neck. And on his head he set his helmet with two ridges and with bosses four, with horsehair crest, and terribly did the plume nod from above. And he took two valiant spears, tipped with bronze; sharp they were, and far from him into heaven shone the bronze; and Athene and Hera thundered, doing honor to the king of Mycenae, rich in gold.

Then on his own charioteer each man laid the charge to

<sup>1</sup> A blue enamel, or glass paste, imitating lapis lazuli; cf. *Od.* 7.87. M.

<sup>2</sup> κυάνεοι . . . ὀρωρέχατο: σμερδαλέοι . . . ἐλειχμῶντο  
Aristophanes.

<sup>3</sup> ἱρυσιν: ἐρίδεσσιν Zenodotus.

- ἵππους εὖ κατὰ κόσμον ἐρυκέμεν αὖθ' ἐπὶ τάφρῳ,  
αὐτοὶ δὲ πρυλῆες σὺν τεύχεσι θωρηχθέντες  
50 ῥῶοντ'. ἄσβεστος δὲ βοή γένετ' ἡῶθι πρό.  
φθὰν δὲ μέγ'<sup>4</sup> ἱππήων ἐπὶ τάφρῳ κοσμηθέντες,  
ἱππήες δ' ὀλίγον μετεκίαθον. ἐν δὲ κυδοιμὸν  
ᾧρσε κακὸν Κρονίδης, κατὰ δ' ὑψόθεν ἤκεν ἑέρσας  
αἵματι μυδαλέας ἐξ αἰθέρος, οὐνεκ' ἔμελλε  
55 πολλὰς ἰφθίμους κεφαλὰς Ἀϊδι προϊάψειν.  
Τρῶες δ' αὖθ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐπὶ θρωσμῷ πεδίοιο,  
Ἑκτορά τ' ἀμφὶ μέγαν καὶ ἀμύμονα Πουλυδάμαντα  
Αἰνείαν θ', ὃς Τρωσὶ θεὸς ὥς τίετο δήμῳ,  
60 ἡίθεόν τ' Ἀκάμαντ', ἐπιείκελόν ἀθανάτοισιν.  
Ἑκτωρ δ' ἐν πρώτοισι φέρ' ἀσπίδα πάντοσ' εἴσῃν.  
οἶος δ' ἐκ νεφέων ἀναφαίνεται οὐλῖος ἀστῆρ  
παμφαίνων, τοτὲ δ' αὖτις ἔδν νέφεα σκιάοντα,  
ὥς Ἑκτωρ ὅτ' ἐν πρώτοισι φάνεσκεν,  
65 ἄλλοτε δ' ἐν πυμάτοισι κελεύων· πᾶς δ' ἄρα χαλκῷ  
λάμφ' ὥς τε στεροπὴ πατρὸς Διὸς αἰγιόχοιο.  
Οἱ δ', ὥς τ' ἀμνητῆρες ἐναντίοι ἀλλήλοισιν  
ὄγμον ἐλαύνωσιν ἀνδρὸς μάκαρος κατ' ἄρουραν  
πυρῶν ἢ κριθῶν· τὰ δὲ δράγματα ταρφέα πίπτει·  
70 ὥς Τρῶες καὶ Ἀχαιοὶ ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισι θορόντες  
δήουν, οὐδ' ἕτεροι μνῶοντ' ὀλοοῖο φόβοιο.  
ἴσας δ' ὑσμίνῃ κεφαλὰς ἔχεν, οἱ δὲ λύκοι ὥς

<sup>4</sup> μέγ' Aristarchus: μεθ'.



## BOOK 11

hold in his horses all in good order there at the trench, but they themselves on foot, arrayed in their armor, rushed swiftly forward, and a cry unquenchable rose up before the face of Dawn. In advance of the charioteers were they arrayed at the trench, but after them a little followed the charioteers. And among them the son of Cronos roused an evil din, and down from on high out of heaven he sent dew-drops dank with blood, because he was about to send to Hades many a mighty head.

And the Trojans facing them on the rising ground of the plain were arrayed about great Hector and incomparable Polydamas and Aeneas, who was honored by the people of the Trojans like a god, and the three sons of Antenor, Polybus and noble Agenor and young Acamas, peer of the immortals. And Hector among the foremost carried his shield that was well balanced on every side. Just as from among the clouds there gleams the destructive star, all glittering, and then again it passes behind the shadowy clouds, so Hector would now appear among the foremost and now among the hindmost giving them commands; and all in bronze he flashed like the lightning of father Zeus who bears the aegis.

As reapers facing one another from opposite sides drive their swathes through a rich man's field of wheat or barley and the handfuls fall thick and fast, so the Trojans and Achaeans leapt on one another and slaughtered, nor did either side take thought of ruinous flight; and equal heads had the battle,<sup>2</sup> and they raged like wolves. And Strife,

<sup>2</sup> This strange phrase probably means no more than that both the contending lines remained erect, neither going down before the other. M.

- θῦνον. Ἔρις δ' ἄρα χαῖρε πολύστονος εἰσορόωσα·  
 οἷη γάρ ῥα θεῶν παρετύγχανε μαρναμένοισιν,  
 75 οἱ δ' ἄλλοι οὐ σφιν πάρεσαν θεοί, ἀλλὰ ἔκηλοι  
 οἷσιν ἐνὶ μεγάροισι καθήατο, ἦχι ἐκάστω  
 δώματα καλὰ τέτυκτο κατὰ πτύχας Οὐλύμποιο.  
 πάντες δ' ἡτιόωντο κελαινεφέα Κρονίωνα,<sup>5</sup>  
 οὔνεκ' ἄρα Τρώεσσιν ἐβούλετο κῦδος ὀρέξαι.  
 80 τῶν μὲν ἄρ' οὐκ ἀλέγιζε πατὴρ· ὁ δὲ νόσφι λιασθεὶς  
 τῶν ἄλλων ἀπάνευθε καθέζετο κύδει γαίω,  
 εἰσορόων Τρώων τε πόλιν καὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν  
 χαλκοῦ τε στεροπὴν, ὀλλύντας τ' ὀλλυμένους τε.  
 Ὅφρα μὲν ἤως ἦν καὶ ἀέξετο ἱερὸν ἦμαρ,  
 85 τόφρα μάλ' ἀμφοτέρων βέλε' ἥπτετο, πῖπτε δὲ λαός·  
 ἦμος δὲ δρυτόμος περ ἀνὴρ ὠπλίσσατο δεῖπνον  
 οὔρεος ἐν βήσσησιν, ἐπεὶ τ' ἐκορέσσατο χεῖρας  
 τάμνων δένδρεα μάκρα, ἄδος τέ μιν ἵκετο θυμόν,  
 σίτου τε γλυκεροῖο περὶ φρένας ἱμερος αἰρεῖ,  
 90 τῆμος σφῇ ἀρετῇ Δαναοὶ ῥήξαντο φάλαγγας,  
 κεκλόμενοι ἐτάροισι κατὰ στίχας. ἐν δ' Ἀγαμέμνων  
 πρῶτος ὄρουσ', ἔλε δ' ἄνδρα Βιήνορα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
 αὐτόν, ἔπειτα δ' ἐταῖρον Ὀιλήα πλήξιππον.  
 ἦ τοι ὅ γ' ἐξ ἵππων κατεπάλμενος ἀντίος ἔστη·  
 95 τὸν δ' ἰθὺς μεμαῶτα μετώπιον ὀξεί δουρὶ  
 νύξ', οὐδὲ στεφάνη δόρυ οἱ σχέθε χαλκοβάρεια,  
 ἀλλὰ δι' αὐτῆς ἦλθε καὶ ὀστέον, ἐγκέφαλος δὲ  
 ἔνδον ἅπας πεπάλακτο· δάμασσε δέ μιν μεμαῶτα.  
 καὶ τοὺς μὲν λίπεν αἶθι ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων

who causes many groanings, rejoiced as she looked on; for alone of the gods she was with them in their fighting; and the other gods were not among them, but were seated at their ease in their own halls, where for each one a fair dwelling had been built among the folds of Olympus. And all were blaming the son of Cronos, lord of the dark clouds, because he willed to give glory to the Trojans. But them the father regarded not; but aloof from the others he sat apart exulting in his glory, looking down on the city of the Trojans and the ships of the Achaeans, on the flashing of bronze, and on the slayers and the slain.

Now as long as it was morning and the holy day was waxing, so long the missiles of either side reached their mark, and the men kept falling; but at the hour when a woodman makes ready his meal in the glades of a mountain, when his arms have grown tired with felling tall trees, and weariness comes on his heart, and desire of sweet food seizes his thoughts, then by their valor the Danaans broke the battalions, calling to their comrades through the lines. And among them Agamemnon rushed the first and slew a warrior, Bienor, shepherd of men—himself and after him his comrade, Oïleus, driver of horses. Oïleus had leapt down from his chariot and stood and faced him, but just as he rushed straight on him Agamemnon struck him on the forehead with his sharp spear, and the spear was not stopped by his helmet, heavy with bronze, but passed through it and through the bone, and all his brain was spattered about inside; so he vanquished him in his fury. These then did Agamemnon, lord of men, leave there, all-

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<sup>5</sup> Lines 78–83 were rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

- 100 στήθεσι παμφαίνοντας, ἐπεὶ περιίδυσσε χιτῶνας·<sup>6</sup>  
 αὐτὰρ ὁ βῆ ῥ' Ἴσόν τε καὶ Ἄντιφον ἐξεναρίζων,  
 νῆε δ' ὡς Πριάμοιο, νόθον καὶ γνήσιον, ἄμφω  
 εἶν ἐνὶ δίφρῳ ἑόντας· ὁ μὲν νόθος ἡνιόχευεν,  
 Ἄντιφος αὖ παρέβασκε περικλυτός. ὧ ποτ' Ἀχιλλεὺς
- 105 Ἴδης ἐν κνημοῖσι δίδη μόσχοισι λύγοισι,  
 ποιμαίνοντ' ἐπ' ὅεσσι λαβών, καὶ ἔλυσεν ἀποίνων.  
 δῆ τότε γ' Ἀτρεΐδης εὐρὺν κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 τὸν μὲν ὑπὲρ μαζοῖο κατὰ στήθος βάλε δουρί,  
 Ἄντιφον αὖ παρὰ οὓς ἔλασε ξίφει, ἐκ δ' ἔβαλ' ἵππων.
- 110 σπερχόμενος δ' ἀπὸ τοῖν ἐσύλα τεύχεα καλά,  
 γιγνώσκων· καὶ γάρ σφε πάρος παρὰ νηυσὶ θοῇσιν  
 εἶδεν, ὅτ' ἐξ Ἴδης ἄγαγεν πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλλεύς.  
 ὥς δὲ λέων ἐλάφοιο ταχείης νήπια τέκνα  
 ῥηιδίως συνέαξε, λαβὼν κρατεροῖσιν ὁδοῦσιν,
- 115 ἐλθὼν εἰς εὐνὴν, ἀπαλὸν τέ σφ' ἦτορ ἀπηύρα·  
 ἢ δ' εἴ πέρ τε τύχησι μάλα σχεδόν, οὐ δύναταί σφι  
 χραιομεῖν· αὐτὴν γάρ μιν ὑπὸ τρόμος αἰνὸς ἰκάνει·  
 καρπαλίμως δ' ἦξε δια δρυμὰ πυκνὰ καὶ ὕλην  
 σπεύδουσ' ἰδρώουσα κραταιοῦ θηρὸς ὑφ' ὀρμῆς·
- 120 ὥς ἄρα τοῖς οὐ τις δύνατο χραιομηῆσαι ὄλεθρον  
 Τρώων, ἀλλὰ καὶ αὐτοὶ ὑπ' Ἀργείοισι φέβοντο.  
 Αὐτὰρ ὁ Πείσανδρόν τε καὶ Ἰππόλοχον μενε-  
 χάρμην,  
 υἱέας Ἀντιμάχοιο δαΐφρονος,<sup>7</sup> ὅς ῥα μάλιστα  
 χρυσὸν Ἀλεξάνδροιο δεδεγμένος, ἀγλαὰ δῶρα,
- 125 οὐκ εἵασχ' Ἐλένην δόμεναι ξανθῷ Μενελάῳ,

gleaming with their naked chests, when he had stripped off their tunics, and made straight to slay Isus and Antiphus, two sons of Priam, one a bastard and one born in wedlock, the two being in one chariot: the bastard held the reins, but glorious Antiphus stood by his side to fight. These two had Achilles once bound with willow shoots among the spurs of Ida, taking them as they were herding their sheep, and had set them free for a ransom. But now the son of Atreus, wide-ruling Agamemnon, struck Isus on the chest above the nipple with a cast of his spear, and Antiphus he struck close to the ear with his sword, and cast him from the chariot. Then he made haste to strip from the two their fair armor, recognizing them, for he had seen them before by the swift ships, when Achilles, fleet of foot, brought them from Ida. And as a lion easily crushes the little ones of a swift hind, when he has seized them with his mighty teeth, and has come to their lair, and takes from them their tender life; and the mother, though she happens to be very near, cannot protect them, for on herself too comes dread trembling, and swiftly she darts through the thick brush and the wood, sweating in her haste before the mighty beast's attack; so was no one of the Trojans able to protect these two from destruction, but were themselves driven in flight before the Argives.

Then he slew Peisander and Hippolochus, firm in the fight. Sons were they of shrewd Antimachus, who above all others, expecting gold from Alexander, glorious gifts, would not allow them to give Helen back to tawny-haired

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<sup>6</sup> *περίδυσσε χιτῶνας: κλυτὰ τεύχε' ἀπηύρα.*

<sup>7</sup> *δαΐφρονος: κακόφρονος Zenodotus (cf. 138).*

τοῦ περ δὴ δύο παῖδε λάβε κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 εἶν ἐνὶ δίφρῳ ἑόντας, ὁμοῦ δ' ἔχον ὠκέας ἵππους·  
 ἐκ γάρ σφεας χειρῶν φύγον ἡνία σιγαλόεντα,  
 τὼ δὲ κυκηθήτην· ὁ δ' ἐναντίον ὦρτο λέων ὥς  
 130 Ἀτρεΐδης· τὼ δ' αὖτ' ἐκ δίφρου γονναζέσθην·  
 “ζώγρει, Ἀτρέος νιέ, σὺ δ' ἄξια δέξαι ἄποινα·  
 πολλὰ δ' ἐν Ἀντιμάχοιο δόμοις<sup>8</sup> κειμήλια κείται,  
 χαλκός τε χρυσός τε πολύκμητός τε σίδηρος,  
 τῶν κέν τοι χαρίσαιο πατὴρ ἀπερείσι' ἄποινα,  
 135 εἰ νῶι ζωοὺς πεπύθουτ' ἐπὶ νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.”

Ὡς τώ γε κλαίοντε προσαυδήτην βασιλῆα  
 μελιχίοις ἐπέεσσιν· ἀμείλικτον δ' ὅπ' ἄκουσαν·  
 “εἰ μὲν δὴ Ἀντιμάχοιο δαΐφρονος<sup>9</sup> υἱέες ἐστόν,  
 ὅς ποτ' ἐνὶ Τρώων ἀγορῇ Μενέλαον ἄνωγεν,  
 140 ἀγγελίην ἐλθόντα σὺν ἀντιθέῳ Ὀδυσῇ,  
 αὖθι κατακτείνειν μῆδ' ἐξέμεν ἅψ ἔς Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 νῦν μὲν δὴ τοῦ πατρὸς αἰεκέα τίσετε λῶβην.”

Ἦ, καὶ Πείσανδρον μὲν ἀφ' ἵππων ὥσε χαμᾶζε  
 δουρὶ βαλὼν πρὸς στήθος· ὁ δ' ὕπτιος οὔδει ἐρείσθη.<sup>10</sup>  
 145 Ἴππόλοχος δ' ἀπόρουσε, τὸν αὖ χαμαὶ ἐξενάριξε,  
 χεῖρας ἀπὸ ξίφεϊ τμήξας ἀπὸ τ' αὐχένα κόψας,  
 ὄλμον δ' ὥς ἔσσενε κυλίνδεσθαι δι' ὀμίλου.  
 τοὺς μὲν ἔασ'· ὁ δ' ὅθι πλείσται κλονέοντο φάλαγγες,  
 τῇ ῥ' ἐνόρουσ', ἅμα δ' ἄλλοι ἐνκνήμιδες Ἀχαιοί,  
 150 πεζοὶ μὲν πεζοὺς ὄλεκον φεύγοντας ἀνάγκη,

<sup>8</sup> δόμοις: πατρὸς Zenodotus.

<sup>9</sup> δαΐφρονος: κακόφρονος Zenodotus (cf. 123).

Menelaus. It was his two sons that lord Agamemnon took, the two being in one chariot, and together they were seeking to contain the swift horses, for the shining reins had slipped from their hands, and the two horses were running wild; but he rushed against them like a lion, the son of Atreus, and the two begged him from the chariot: "Take us alive, son of Atreus, and accept a worthy ransom; many treasures lie stored in the house of Antimachus, bronze and gold and iron worked with much toil; from these would our father grant you ransom past counting if he should hear that we are alive at the ships of the Achaeans."

So with weeping the two spoke to the king with gentle words, but ungentle was the voice they heard: "If you are indeed the sons of shrewd Antimachus, who once in the assembly of the Trojans, when Menelaus had come on an embassy with godlike Odysseus, commanded them to slay him then and there, and not to allow him to return to the Achaeans, now you will pay the price of your father's foul outrage."

He spoke, and thrust Peisander from his chariot to the ground, striking him with his spear in the chest, and backward he was hurled on the earth. But Hippolochus leapt down, and him he slew on the ground, and shearing off his arms with the sword, and striking off his head, sent him rolling like a round stone among the throng. These then he left, but where the most battalions were being driven in rout, there leapt he in, and with him other well-greaved Achaeans. Foot soldiers were ever slaying foot soldiers as they were forced to flee, and horsemen horsemen—

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<sup>10</sup> οὐδὲι ἐρείσθη: οὐδας ἔρεισεν Aristarchus (cf. 12. 192).

ἱππεῖς δ' ἱππῆας, ὑπὸ δέ σφισιν ὦρτο κονίη  
 ἐκ πεδίου, τὴν ὦρσαν ἐρίγδουποι πόδες ἵππων,  
 χαλκῷ δηιόωντες. ἀτὰρ κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 αἰὲν ἀποκτείνων ἔπετ' Ἀργείοισι κελεύων.

- 155 ὥς δ' ὅτε πῦρ αἶδηλον ἐν ἀξύλῳ ἐμπέσση ὕλη,  
 πάντῃ τ' εἰλυφόων ἄνεμος φέρει, οἱ δέ τε θάμνοι  
 πρόρριζοι πίπτουσιν ἐπειγόμενοι πυρὸς ὀρμῇ·  
 ὥς ἄρ' ὑπ' Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνονι πίπτε κάρηνα  
 Τρώων φευγόντων, πολλοὶ δ' ἐριαύχενες ἵπποι  
 160 κεῖν' ὄχεα κροτάλιζον ἀνὰ πτολέμοιο γεφύρας,  
 ἡνιόχους ποθέοντες ἀμύμονας· οἱ δ' ἐπὶ γαίῃ  
 κείατο, γύπεςσιν πολὺ φίλτεροι ἢ ἀλόχοισιν.

- Ἐκτορα δ' ἐκ βελέων ὕπαγε Ζεὺς ἔκ τε κονίης  
 ἔκ τ' ἀνδροκτασίης ἔκ θ' αἵματος ἔκ τε κυδοιμοῦ·  
 165 Ἀτρεΐδης δ' ἔπετο σφεδανὸν Δαναοῖσι κελεύων.  
 οἱ δὲ παρ' Ἴλου σῆμα παλαιοῦ Δαρδανίδαο  
 μέσσον καὶ πεδίων παρ' ἐρινεὸν ἐσσεύοντο  
 ἰέμενοι πόλιος· ὁ δὲ κεκληγὼς ἔπετ' αἰεὶ  
 Ἀτρεΐδης, λύθρῳ δὲ παλάσσετο χεῖρας ἀάπτους.  
 170 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ Σκαιάς τε πύλας καὶ φηγὸν ἵκοντο,  
 ἔνθ' ἄρα δὴ ἵσταντο καὶ ἀλλήλους ἀνέμιμνον.  
 οἱ δ' ἔτι καὶ μέσσον πεδίων φοβέοντο βόες ὥς,  
 ἃς τε λέων ἐφόβησε μολῶν ἐν νυκτὸς ἀμολγῷ  
 πάσας· τῇ δέ τ' ἰῆ ἀναφαίνεται αἰπὺς ὄλεθρος·  
 175 τῆς δ' ἐξ αὐχέν' ἔαξε λαβὼν κρατεροῖσιν ὁδοῦσι  
 πρῶτον, ἔπειτα δέ θ' αἶμα καὶ ἔγκατα πάντα  
 λαφύσσει·

ὥς τοὺς Ἀτρεΐδης ἔφεπε κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων,



and from beneath them rose up from the plain the dust which the thundering hooves of horses stirred up—and they slaughtered with the bronze. And lord Agamemnon, ever slaying, followed after, calling to the Argives. And as when consuming fire falls on a thick wood, and the whirling wind carries it everywhere, and the thickets fall uprooted as they are assailed by the onrush of the fire; so beneath Agamemnon, son of Atreus, fell the heads of the Trojans as they fled, and many horses with high-arched necks rattled empty chariots along the lines of battle, longing for their incomparable charioteers; but they lay on the ground dearer far to vultures than to their wives.

But Zeus drew Hector away from the missiles and the dust, from the man-slaying and the blood and the din; and the son of Atreus followed after, calling fiercely to the Danaans. And past the tomb of ancient Ilus, son of Dardanus, over the middle of the plain, past the wild fig tree they sped, straining towards the city, and always did the son of Atreus follow shouting, and with gore were his invincible hands bespattered. But when they came to the Scaean gates and the oak tree, there then the two armies halted and awaited one another. But some were still being driven in rout over the middle of the plain like cattle that a lion has driven in rout, coming on them in the dead of night; all he has routed, but to one appears sheer destruction; her neck he seizes first in his mighty teeth and breaks it, and then devours the blood and all the inward parts: so did lord Agamemnon, son of Atreus, follow hard on the

- αἰὲν ἀποκτείνων τὸν ὀπίστατον· οἱ δ' ἐφέβοντο.  
πολλοὶ δὲ πρηνεῖς τε καὶ ὕπτιοι ἔκπεσον ἵππων<sup>11</sup>
- 180 Ἀτρεΐδew ὑπὸ χερσί· περιπρὸ γὰρ ἔγχει θῦεν.  
ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ τάχ' ἔμελλεν ὑπὸ πτόλιν αἰπύ τε τείχος  
ἵξεσθαι, τότε δὴ ῥα πατὴρ ἀνδρῶν τε θεῶν τε  
Ἰδης ἐν κορυφῇσι καθέζετο πιδιέσσης,  
οὐρανόθεν καταβάς· ἔχε δ' ἀστεροπὴν μετὰ χερσίν.
- 185 Ἴριν δ' ὄτρυνε χρυσόπτερον ἀγγελέουσαν·  
“βάσκ' ἴθι, Ἴρι ταχεῖα, τὸν Ἑκτορι μῦθον ἐνίσπε·  
ὄφρ' ἂν μὲν κεν ὀρᾷ Ἀγαμέμνονα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
θύνοντ' ἐν προμάχοισιν, ἐναίροντα στίχας ἀνδρῶν,  
τόφρ' ἀναχωρεῖτω, τὸν δ' ἄλλον λαὸν ἀνώχθω
- 190 μάρνασθαι δηίοισι κατὰ κρατερὴν ὕσμίνην.  
αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κ' ἦ δουρὶ τυπεῖς ἦ βλήμενος ἰῶ  
εἰς ἵππους ἄλεται, τότε οἱ κράτος ἐγγυαλίξω  
κτείνειν, εἰς ὃ κε νῆας ἐυσσέλμους ἀφίκηται  
δύη τ' ἠέλιος καὶ ἐπὶ κνέφας ἱερὸν ἔλθῃ.”
- 195 “Ὡς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθῃσε ποδῆνεμος ὦκέα Ἴρις,  
βῇ δὲ κατ' Ἰδαίων ὀρέων ἐς Ἴλιον ἱρήν.  
εὐρ' υἱὸν Πριάμοιο δαΐφρονος, Ἑκτορα δῖον,  
έσταότ' ἐν θ' ἵπποισι καὶ ἄρμασι κολλητοῖσιν·  
ἀγχοῦ δ' ἵσταμένη προσέφη πόδας ὦκέα Ἴρις·
- 200 “Ἑκτορ, νιὲ Πριάμοιο, Διὶ μῆτιν ἀτάλαντε,  
Ζεὺς με πατὴρ προέηκε τέϊν τάδε μυθήσασθαι.  
ὄφρ' ἂν μὲν κεν ὀρᾷς Ἀγαμέμνονα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
θύνοντ' ἐν προμάχοισιν, ἐναίροντα στίχας ἀνδρῶν,  
τόφρ' ὑπόεικε μάχης, τὸν δ' ἄλλον λαὸν ἄνωχθι
- 205 μάρνασθαι δηίοισι κατὰ κρατερὴν ὕσμίνην.

Trojans, ever slaying the hindmost, and they were driven in rout. And many fell from their chariots on their faces or on their backs at the hands of Atreus' son, for around and before him he raged with his spear. But when he was just about to come beneath the city and the steep wall, then it was that the father of men and gods came down from heaven, and sat on the peaks of many-fountained Ida; and in his hands he held the thunder bolt. And he sent golden-winged Iris to carry a message: "Up, go, swift Iris, and declare these words to Hector: so long as he sees Agamemnon, shepherd of men, raging among the foremost fighters, laying waste the ranks of men, so long let him hold back, and command the rest of the army to fight with the foe in the mighty combat. But when, either wounded by a spear-thrust or struck by an arrow, Agamemnon leaps on his chariot, then will I grant might to Hector to slay and slay until he comes to the well-benched ships, and the sun sets and holy darkness comes on."

So he spoke, and wind-footed swift Iris failed not to obey, but went down from the hills of Ida to sacred Ilios. She found the son of wise-hearted Priam, noble Hector, as he stood in his jointed chariot; and swift-footed Iris came up to him and spoke, saying: "Hector, son of Priam, peer of Zeus in counsel, Zeus the father has sent me to declare to you these words. So long as you see Agamemnon, shepherd of men, raging among the foremost fighters, laying waste the ranks of men, so long hold back from battle, and command the rest of the army to fight with the foe in the

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<sup>11</sup> Lines 179 f. were rejected by Zenodotus and Aristarchus. Line 180 was rejected by Aristophanes.

αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κ' ἦ δουρὶ τυπεῖς ἢ βλήμενος ἰῶ  
εἰς ἵππους ἄλεται, τότε τοι κράτος ἐγγυαλίξει  
κτείνειν, εἰς ὃ κε νῆας ἐνστέλμους ἀφίκηαι  
δύη τ' ἡέλιος καὶ ἐπὶ κνέφας ἱερὸν ἔλθῃ."

- 210 Ἡ μὲν ἄρ' ὥς εἰποῦσ' ἀπέβη πόδας ὠκέα Ἴρις,  
Ἐκτωρ δ' ἐξ ὀχέων σὺν τεύχεσιν ἄλτο χαμαῖζε,  
πάλλων δ' ὀξέε δούρε κατὰ στρατὸν ὥχετο πάντῃ,  
ὀτρύνων μαχέσασθαι, ἔγειρε δὲ φύλοπιν αἰνῇ.  
οἱ δ' ἐλελίχθησαν καὶ ἐναντίοι ἔσταν Ἀχαιῶν,  
215 Ἀργεῖοι δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐκαρτύνναντο φάλαγγας.  
ἀρτύνθη δὲ μάχῃ, στὰν δ' ἀντίοι ἐν δ' Ἀγαμέμνων  
πρῶτος ὄρουσ', ἔθελεν δὲ πολὺ προμάχεσθαι  
ἀπάντων.

Ἔσπετε νῦν μοι, Μοῦσαι, Ὀλύμπια δώματ'  
ἔχουσαι,

- ὅς τις δὴ πρῶτος Ἀγαμέμνονος ἀντίον ἦλθεν  
220 ἢ αὐτῶν Τρώων ἢ ἐκλειτῶν ἐπικούρων.  
Ἴφιδάμας Ἀντηνορίδης, ἧς τε μέγας τε,  
ὃς τράφη ἐν Θρήκῃ ἐριβώλακι, μητέρι μήλων.<sup>12</sup>  
Κισσηὶς τὸν γ' ἔθρεψε δόμοις ἐνὶ τυτθὸν ἑόντα  
μητροπάτωρ, ὃς τίκτε Θεανὼ καλλιπάρηον.  
225 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ ῥ' ἦβης ἐρικυδέος ἵκετο μέτρον,  
αὐτοῦ μιν κατέρυκε, δίδου δ' ὃ γε θυγατέρα ἦν.  
γῆμας δ' ἐκ θαλάμοιο μετὰ κλέος ἵκετ' Ἀχαιῶν  
σὺν δυοκαίδεκα νηυσὶ κορωνίσιν, αἷ οἱ ἔποντο.  
τὰς μὲν ἔπειτ' ἐν Περκώτῃ λίπε νῆας εἵσας,  
230 αὐτὰρ ὁ πεζὸς ἐὼν ἐς Ἴλιον εἰληλουθεί·  
ὃς ῥά τότε Ἀτρεΐδew Ἀγαμέμνονος ἀντίον ἦλθεν.

mighty combat. But when, either wounded by a spear-thrust or struck by an arrow, Agamemnon leaps on his chariot, then will Zeus grant might to you to slay and slay until you come to the well-benched ships, and the sun sets and holy darkness comes on."

So spoke swift-footed Iris and went away; and Hector leapt in his armor from his chariot to the ground, and brandishing his two sharp spears went everywhere throughout the army, urging them to fight, and roused the dread din of battle. So they rallied, and stood facing the Achaeans, and the Argives facing them made strong their battalions. And the battle was set, and they stood facing each other, and among them Agamemnon rushed out the first, and was minded to fight far in advance of all.

Tell me now, you Muses who have dwellings on Olympus, who it was that first came to face Agamemnon, either of the Trojans themselves or of their famed allies. It was Iphidamas, son of Antenor, a powerful man and tall, who was reared in deep-soiled Thrace, mother of flocks; Cisses reared him in his house while he was still only a little child, his mother's father, who begot fair-cheeked Theano. But when he came to the measure of glorious youth, he sought to keep him there, and offered him his own daughter; but as a bridegroom newly wed, from his bridal chamber he went after the report of the coming of the Achaeans, with twelve beaked ships that followed him. Now these he had left at Percote, the shapely ships, but he himself had come on foot to Ilios; he it was who now came to face Agamemnon, son of Atreus. And when they had come near as

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<sup>12</sup> μῆλιν: θηρῶν Zenodotus.

- οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ σχεδὸν ἦσαν ἐπ' ἀλλήλοισιν ἰόντες,  
 Ἀτρεΐδης μὲν ἄμαρτε, παραὶ δέ οἱ ἐτράπετ' ἔγχος,  
 Ἴφιδάμας δὲ κατὰ ζώνην θώρηκος ἔνερθε  
 235 νύξ', ἐπὶ δ' αὐτὸς ἔρεισε, βαρέϊη χειρὶ πιθήσας·  
 οὐδ' ἔτορε ζωστήρα παναίολον, ἀλλὰ πολὺ πρὶν  
 ἀργύρῳ ἀντομένη μόλιβος ὥς ἐτράπετ' αἰχμῇ.  
 καὶ τό γε χειρὶ λαβὼν εὐρὺ κρείων Ἀγαμέμνων  
 ἔλκ' ἐπὶ οἱ μεμαῶς ὥς τε λῖς, ἐκ δ' ἄρα χειρὸς  
 240 σπάσσατο· τὸν δ' ἄορι πληῆξ' αὐχένα, λῦσε δὲ γυῖα.  
 ὥς ὁ μὲν αὖθι πεσὼν κοιμήσατο χάλκεον ὕπνον  
 οἰκτρὸς, ἀπὸ μνηστῆς ἀλόχου, ἀστοῖσιν ἀρήγων,  
 κουριδίης, ἧς οὐ τι χάριν ἶδε, πολλὰ δ' ἔδωκε·  
 πρῶθ' ἑκατὸν βοῦς δῶκεν, ἔπειτα δὲ χίλι' ὑπέστη,  
 245 αἶγας ὁμοῦ καὶ ὄις, τά οἱ ἄσπετα ποιμαίνοντο.  
 δὴ τότε γ' Ἀτρεΐδης Ἀγαμέμνων ἐξενάριξε,  
 βῆ δὲ φέρων ἀν' ὄμιλον Ἀχαιῶν τεύχεα καλά.  
 Τὸν δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησε Κόων, ἀριδείκετος ἀνδρῶν,  
 πρεσβυγενὴς Ἀντηνορίδης, κρατερόν ῥά ἐ πένθος  
 250 ὀφθαλμοὺς ἐκάλυψε κασιγνήτοιο πεσόντος.  
 στῆ δ' εὐράξ σὺν δουρὶ λαθὼν Ἀγαμέμνονα δῖον,  
 νύξε δέ μιν κατὰ χεῖρα μέσσην ἀγκῶνος ἔνερθε,  
 ἀντικρὺ δὲ διέσχε φαεινοῦ δουρὸς ἀκωκῇ.  
 ῥίγησέν τ' ἄρ' ἔπειτα ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 255 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς ἀπέληγε μάχης ἡδὲ πτολέμοιο,  
 ἀλλ' ἐπόρουσε Κόωνι ἔχων ἀνεμοτρεφὲς ἔγχος.  
 ἦ τοι ὁ Ἴφιδάμαντα κασίγνητον καὶ ὄπατρον  
 ἔλκε ποδὸς μεμαῶς, καὶ αὐτεὶ πάντας ἀρίστους·

they advanced one against the other, the son of Atreus missed, and his spear was turned aside, but Iphidamas stabbed him on the belt beneath the corselet, and put his weight into the thrust, trusting in his heavy hand; but he pierced not the flashing belt, for long before that the spear-point struck the silver, and was bent like lead. Then wide-ruling Agamamnon seized the spear in his hand and drew it toward him furiously like a lion, and pulled it from the hand of Iphidamas, and struck him on the neck with his sword and loosed his limbs. So there he fell, and slept a sleep of bronze, unhappy youth, far from his wedded wife, bringing aid to his townsmen, far from the bride of whom he had known no joy, yet much had he given for her; first he gave one hundred cattle, and then promised a thousand, goats and sheep together, that were herded for him in flocks past counting. Then did Agamemnon, son of Atreus, strip him and go through the throng of the Achaeans carrying his fair armor.

But when Coön, preeminent among warriors, eldest son of Antenor, caught sight of him, mighty grief enfolded his eyes for his brother's fall, and he stood to one side with his spear, unseen by noble Agamemnon, and stabbed him square on the arm below the elbow, and clean through went the point of the shining spear. Then shuddered the lord of men, Agamemnon, but not even so did he cease from battle and war but, wind-nurtured<sup>3</sup> spear in hand, leapt on Coön. Now he was eagerly dragging Iphidamas by the foot, his own brother, begotten of the one father, and was calling on all the best men, but as he dragged him

<sup>3</sup> The grain of the wood was thought to be toughened by the buffeting of the winds; cf. 17.55. M.

τὸν δ' ἔλκοντ' ἀν' ὄμιλον ὑπ' ἀσπίδος ὀμφαλοέσσης  
 260 οὔτῃσε ξυστῶ χαλκῆρεϊ, λῦσε δὲ γυνίᾳ·  
 τοῖο δ' ἐπ' Ἰφιδάμαντι κάρη ἀπέκοψε παραστάς.  
 ἔνθ' Ἀντήνορος νῆες ὑπ' Ἀτρεΐδῃ βασιλῆϊ  
 πότμον ἀναπλήσαντες ἔδυν δόμον Ἄϊδος εἶσω.

Αὐτὰρ ὁ τῶν ἄλλων ἐπεπωλεῖτο στίχας ἀνδρῶν  
 265 ἔγχεϊ τ' ἄορί τε μεγάλοισι τε χερμαδίοισιν,  
 ὄφρα οἱ αἶμ' ἔτι θερμὸν ἀνήνοθεν ἐξ ὠτειλῆς.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ τὸ μὲν ἔλκος ἐτέρσετο, παύσατο δ' αἶμα,  
 ὀξείαι δ' ὀδύναι δῦνον μένος Ἀτρεΐδαο.  
 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ὠδίνουσαν ἔχῃ βέλος ὅζν γυναιῖκα,  
 270 δριμύ, τό τε προΐείσι μογοστόκοι Εἰλείθυιαι,  
 Ἥρης θυγατέρες πικρὰς ὠδῖνας ἔχουσαι,  
 ὥς ὅξει' ὀδύναι δῦνον μένος Ἀτρεΐδαο.  
 ἐς δίφρον δ' ἀνόρουσε, καὶ ἡνίοχῳ ἐπέτελλε  
 νηυσὶν ἔπι γλαφυρῇσιν ἐλαυνέμεν· ἤχθετο γὰρ κῆρ.  
 275 ἦυσεν δὲ διαπρύσιον Δαναοῖσι γεγωνώς·  
 “ὦ φίλοι, Ἀργείων ἡγήτορες ἡδὲ μέδοντες,  
 ὑμεῖς μὲν νῦν νηυσὶν ἀμύνετε ποντοπόροισι  
 φύλοπιν ἀργαλέην, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἐμὲ μητίετα Ζεὺς  
 εἵασε Τρῶεσσι πανημέριον πολεμίζειν.”

280 “Ὡς ἔφαθ', ἡνίοχος δ' ἵμασεν καλλίτριχας ἵππους  
 νῆας ἔπι γλαφυράς· τῷ δ' οὐκ ἀέκοντε πετέσθην.  
 ἄφρεον δὲ στήθεα, ραίνοντο δὲ νέρθε κονίη,  
 τειρόμενον βασιλῆα μάχης ἀπάνευθε φέροντες.

“Ἐκτωρ δ' ὡς ἐνόησ' Ἀγαμέμνονα νόσφι κιόντα,  
 285 Τρωσί τε καὶ Λυκίοισιν ἐκέκλετο μακρὸν αὖσας·  
 “Τρῶες καὶ Λύκιοι καὶ Δάρδανοι ἀγχιμαχηταί,



through the throng Agamemnon struck him with a thrust of his bronze-tipped spear beneath his bossed shield, and loosed his limbs; and he came up and struck off his head over Iphidamas. There the sons of Antenor at the hands of the king, the son of Atreus, filled up the measure of their fate, and went down to the house of Hades.

But Agamemnon ranged along the ranks of the other warriors with spear and sword and great stones so long as the blood welled still warm from his wound. But when the wound began to dry, and the blood ceased to flow, then sharp pains came on the mighty son of Atreus. And just as when the sharp dart strikes a woman in labor, the piercing dart that the Eileithyiae, goddesses of childbirth, send—the daughters of Hera who have bitter pangs in their keeping—so sharp pains came on the mighty son of Atreus. Then he leapt on his chariot and commanded his charioteer to drive to the hollow ships, for he was pained at heart. And he uttered a piercing shout, calling aloud to the Danaans: “My friends, leaders and rulers of the Argives, you must now ward from the seafaring ships the gruesome din of battle, for Zeus the counselor does not allow me to war all day long against the Trojans.”

So he spoke, and the charioteer lashed the fair-maned horses towards the hollow ships, and nothing loath the pair flew onward. With foam were their breasts flecked, and with dust their bellies stained beneath them as they carried the wounded king away from the battle.

But when Hector caught sight of Agamemnon withdrawing, to Trojans and Lycians he called with a loud shout: “Trojans and Lycians and Dardanians who fight in

290 ἀνέρες ἔστε, φίλοι, μνήσασθε δὲ θούριδος ἀλκῆς.  
 οἷχετ' ἀνὴρ ὤριστος, ἐμοὶ δὲ μέγ' εὖχος ἔδωκε  
 Ζεὺς Κρονίδης· ἀλλ' ἰθὺς ἐλαύνετε μώνυχας ἵππους  
 ἰφθίμων Δαναῶν, ἵν' ὑπέρτερον εὖχος ἄρησθε."

Ὡς εἰπὼν ὄτρυνε μένος καὶ θυμὸν ἐκάστου.  
 ὥς δ' ὅτε πού τις θηρητὴρ κύνας ἀργιόδοντας  
 σεύη ἐπ' ἀγροτέρῳ συτὶ καπρίῳ ἢ λέοντι,  
 ὥς ἐπ' Ἀχαιοῖσιν σεύε Τρῶας μεγαθύμους  
 295 Ἑκτωρ Πριαμίδης, βροτολοιγῷ ἴσος Ἄρηι.  
 αὐτὸς δ' ἐν πρώτοισι μέγα φρονέων ἐβεβήκει,  
 ἐν δ' ἔπεσ' ὑσμίνῃ ὑπεραεὶ ἴσος ἀέλλῃ,  
 ἥ τε καθαλλομένη ἰοειδέα πόντον ὀρίνει.

Ἐνθα τίνα πρῶτον, τίνα δ' ὕστατον ἐξενάριξεν  
 300 Ἑκτωρ Πριαμίδης, ὅτε οἱ Ζεὺς κῦδος ἔδωκεν;  
 Ἀσαῖον μὲν πρῶτα καὶ Αὐτόνοον καὶ Ὀπίτην,  
 καὶ Δόλοπα Κλυτίδην καὶ Ὀφέλτιον ἠδ' Ἀγέλαον,  
 Αἴσυμνόν τ' Ὀρόν τε καὶ Ἰππόνοον μενεχάρμην.  
 τοὺς ἄρ' ὃ γ' ἡγεμόνας Δαναῶν ἔλεν, αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα  
 305 πληθύν, ὥς ὁπότε νέφεα Ζέφυρος στυφελίξῃ  
 ἀργεστᾷ Νότοιο, βαθείῃ λαίλαπι τύπτων·  
 πολλὸν δὲ τρόφι κῦμα κυλίνδεται, ὑψόσε δ' ἄχνη  
 σκίδνεται ἐξ ἀνέμοιο πολυπλάγκτοιο ἰωῆς·  
 ὥς ἄρα πυκνὰ καρῆαθ' ὑφ' Ἑκτορι δάμνατο λαῶν.

310 Ἐνθα κε λοιγὸς ἦν καὶ ἀμήχανα ἔργα γέγοντο,  
 καὶ νύ κεν ἐν νήεσσι πέσον φεύγοντες Ἀχαιοί,  
 εἰ μὴ Τυδεΐδῃ Διομήδεϊ κέκλετ' Ὀδυσσεύς·  
 "Τυδεΐδῃ, τί παθόντε λελάσμεθα θούριδος ἀλκῆς;  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε δεῦρο, πέπον, παρ' ἐμ' ἴσταο· δὴ γὰρ ἔλεγχος

close combat, be men, my friends, and take thought of furious valor. Gone is the best of the men, and to me has Zeus, son of Cronos, granted great glory. But drive your single-hoofed horses straight towards the valiant Danaans, so that you may win still greater glory."

So saying he roused the force and heart of every man. And just as when a huntsman sets his white-toothed hounds on a wild boar or a lion, so on the Achaeans did Hector, Priam's son, peer of man-destroying Ares, set the great-hearted Trojans. He himself with high heart strode among the foremost, and fell on the conflict like a blustering tempest that leaps down and lashes to fury the violet-hued deep.

Who then was first, and who last, to be slain by Hector, Priam's son, now that Zeus granted him glory? Asaeus first, and Autonomous, and Opites, and Dolops, son of Clytius, and Opheltius, and Agelaus, and Aesymnus, and Orus, and Hipponous, firm in the fight. These leaders of the Danaans he slew and then fell on the mass of men, and just as when the West Wind drives the clouds of the white South Wind, striking them with a violent squall, and many a swollen wave rolls onward, and on high the spray is scattered by the blast of the wandering wind, just so many heads of men were laid low by Hector.

Then there would have been ruin and deeds beyond remedy would have been done, and now would the Achaeans in flight have flung themselves on to their ships, had not Odysseus called to Diomedes, son of Tydeus: "Tydeus' son, what has come over us that we have forgotten our furious valor? But come here, good friend, and stand

- 315 ἔσσεται εἴ κεν νῆας ἔλῃ κορυθαίολος Ἴκτωρ.”  
 Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη κρατερὸς Διο-  
 μῆδης·  
 “ἦ τοι ἐγὼ μενέω καὶ τλήσομαι· ἀλλὰ μίνυνθα  
 ἡμέων ἔσσεται ἦδος, ἐπεὶ νεφεληγερέτα Ζεὺς  
 Τρῳσὶν δὴ βόλεται δοῦναι κράτος ἢ ἐπερ ἡμῖν.”
- 320 Ἦ, καὶ Θυμβραῖον μὲν ἀφ' ἵππων ὥσε χαμᾶζε,  
 δουρὶ βαλὼν κατὰ μαζὸν ἀριστερόν· αὐτὰρ Ὀδυσσεὺς  
 ἀντίθεον θεράποντα Μολίονα τοῖο ἄνακτος.  
 τοὺς μὲν ἔπειτ' εἶασαν, ἐπεὶ πολέμου ἀπέπαυσαν·  
 τῷ δ' ἄν' ὄμιλον ἰόντε κυδοίμεον, ὥς ὅτε κάπρω
- 325 ἐν κυσὶ θηρευτῇσι μέγα φρονέοντε πέσσητον·  
 ὥς ὅλεκον Τρῶας πάλιν ὀρμένῳ· αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιοὶ  
 ἀσπασίως φεύγοντες ἀνέπνεον Ἴκτορα δῖον.  
 Ἐνθ' ἐλέτην δίφρον τε καὶ ἀνέρε δῆμον ἀρίστω,  
 νῆε δύνω Μέροπος Περκωσίου, ὃς περὶ πάντων
- 330 ἦδεε μαντοσύνας, οὐδὲ οὓς παῖδας ἔασκε  
 στείχειν ἐς πόλεμον φθισήνορα· τὼ δέ οἱ οὔ τι  
 πειθέσθην· κῆρες γὰρ ἄγον μέλανος θανάτοιο.  
 τοὺς μὲν Τυδείδης δουρικλειτὸς Διομῆδης  
 θυμοῦ καὶ ψυχῆς κεκαδὼν κλυτὰ τεύχε' ἀπηύρα·
- 335 Ἴππόδαμον δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς καὶ Ὑπείροχον ἐξενάριζεν.  
 Ἐνθα σφιν κατὰ ἴσα μάχην ἐτάνυσσε Κρονίων  
 ἐξ Ἰδης καθορῶν· τοὶ δ' ἀλλήλους ἐνάριζον.  
 ἦ τοι Τυδέος υἱὸς Ἀγαστροφον οὔτασε δουρὶ  
 Παιονίδην ἥρωα κατ' ἰσχίον· οὐδέ οἱ ἵπποι
- 340 ἐγγὺς ἔσαν προφυγεῖν, ἀάσατο δὲ μέγα θυμῷ·  
 τοὺς μὲν γὰρ θεράπων ἀπάνευθ' ἔχεν, αὐτὰρ ὁ πεζὸς

by my side, for surely shame it will be if Hector of the flashing helmet takes the ships."

In answer to him spoke mighty Diomedes: "I will of course remain and endure, but not for long will be our profit, for Zeus, the cloud-gatherer, plainly wills to give victory to the Trojans rather than to us."

He spoke, and thrust Thymbraeus from his chariot to the ground, striking him with his spear on the left side of his chest, and Odysseus struck Molion, the godlike attendant of that king. These then they left when they had made them cease from war; but the two ranged throughout the throng, making havoc of it, as when two boars with high hearts fall on hunting hounds; so they turned again on the Trojans and slew them, and the Achaeans gladly had respite in their flight before noble Hector.

Then they took a chariot and two men, the best of their people, the two sons of Merops of Percote, who was above all men skilled in prophesying, and would not allow his sons to go into battle, the destroyer of men; but they would not listen to him at all, for the fates of black death were leading them on. These did the son of Tydeus, Diomedes, famed for his spear, rob of spirit and of life, and took from them their glorious armor. And Odysseus slew Hippodamus and Hypeirochus.

Then the son of Cronos stretched evenly for them the line of battle, as he looked down from Ida, and they kept on slaying one another. Tydeus' son wounded the warrior Agastrophus, son of Paeon, on the hip with a thrust of his spear; nor were his horses near at hand for him to flee, but he was greatly blinded at heart, for his attendant held the horses at a distance, and he on foot was raging among the

θῦνε διὰ προμάχων, ἧος φίλον ὤλεσε θυμόν.

Ἔκτωρ δ' ὁξὺ νόησε κατὰ στίχας, ὦρτο δ' ἐπ' αὐτοὺς  
κεκλήγων· ἅμα δὲ Τρώων εἶποντο φάλαγγες.

345 τὸν δὲ ἰδὼν ῥίγησε<sup>13</sup> βοὴν ἀγαθὸς Διομήδης,

αἶψα δ' Ὀδυσσῆα προσεφώνεεν ἐγγὺς ἑόντα·

“νῶϊν δὴ τόδε πῆμα κυλίνδεται, ὄβριμος Ἔκτωρ·

ἀλλ' ἄγε δὴ στέωμεν καὶ ἀλεξώμεσθα μένοντες.”

Ἦ ῥα, καὶ ἀμπεπαλὼν προῖει δολιχόσκιον ἔγχος,

350 καὶ βάλεν, οὐδ' ἀφάμαρτε, τιτυσκόμενος κεφαλῇφιν,

ἄκρην κακ κόρυθα· πλάγχθη δ' ἀπὸ χαλκόφι χαλκός,

οὐδ' ἔκετο χροά καλόν· ἐρύκακε γὰρ τρυφάλεια

τρίπτυχος αὐλῶπις, τήν οἱ πόρε Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων.

Ἔκτωρ δ' ὦκ' ἀπέλεθρον ἀνέδραμε, μίκτο δ' ὁμίλῳ,

355 στῇ δὲ γυνῆ ἐριπῶν καὶ ἐρείσατο χειρὶ παχείῃ

γαίης· ἀμφὶ δὲ ὅσσε κελαινὴ νύξ ἐκάλυψεν.<sup>14</sup>

ὄφρα δὲ Τυδείδης μετὰ δούρατος ὥχετ' ἐρωὴν

τῇλε διὰ προμάχων, ὅθι οἱ καταείσατο γαίης,

τόφρ' Ἔκτωρ ἔμπνυτο, καὶ ἅψ ἔς δίφρον ὀρούσας

360 ἐξέλασ' ἐς πληθύν, καὶ ἀλεύατο κῆρα μέλαιναν.

δουρὶ δ' ἐπαῖσσων προσέφη κρατερὸς Διομήδης·

“ἐξ αὖ νῦν ἔφυγες θάνατον, κύον· ἦ τέ τοι ἄγχι

ῆλθε κακόν· νῦν αὖτέ σ' ἐρύσατο Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων,

ὧ μέλλεις εὖχεσθαι ἰὼν ἐς δοῦπον ἀκόντων.

365 ἦ θήν σ' ἐξανύω γε καὶ ὕστερον ἀντιβολήσας,

εἴ πού τις καὶ ἔμοιγε θεῶν ἐπιτάρροθός ἐστι.

νῦν αὖ τοὺς ἄλλους ἐπιείσομαι, ὃν κε κιχέω.”

<sup>13</sup> ῥίγησε: ἐνόησε.

foremost fighters until he lost his life. But Hector quickly caught sight of them across the ranks, and rushed at them, shouting aloud, and with him followed the battalions of the Trojans. At sight of him Diomedes, good at the war cry, shuddered, and immediately spoke to Odysseus, who was near: "On us two is this ruin rolling, mighty Hector; but come, let us stand, and remaining here ward him off."

He spoke and poised his far-shadowing spear, and hurled it, and missed not, but struck him on the head, on the top of the helmet, but the bronze was turned aside by bronze, and did not reach his fair flesh, for it was stayed by the threefold crested helmet which Phoebus Apollo had granted him. But Hector sprang far back, and mixed with the throng, and he fell on his knees and remained there, and with his stout hand leaned on the earth, and dark night enfolded his eyes. But while the son of Tydeus was following after the cast of his spear far through the foremost fighters, where he had seen it fix itself in the earth, in the meantime Hector revived again, and leaping back into his chariot drove out into the mass of men, and escaped black fate. And mighty Diomedes rushed at him with his spear and called to him: "Now again, you dog, you have escaped from death, though the evil came near you indeed; but once more has Phoebus Apollo saved you, to whom it must be you make prayer when you go among the hurtling of spears. I will surely yet make an end of you when I meet you later on, if any god is helper to me likewise. But now I will go after the others, whomever I may catch."

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<sup>14</sup> Line 356 (= 5. 310) was rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

Ἦ, καὶ Παιονίδην δουρικλυτὸν ἐξενάριζεν.  
 αὐτὰρ Ἀλέξανδρος, Ἑλένης πόσις ἠνκόμοιο,  
 370 Τυδεΐδῃ ἐπὶ τόξα τιταίνεται, ποιμένι λαῶν,  
 στήλῃ κεκλιμένος ἀνδροκμήτῳ ἐπὶ τύμβῳ  
 Ἴλου Δαρδανίδαο, παλαιοῦ δημογέροντος.  
 ἦ τοι ὁ μὲν θώρηκα Ἀγαστρόφον ἰφθίμοιο  
 αἶνυτ' ἀπὸ στήθεσφι παναίολον ἀσπίδα τ' ὤμων  
 375 καὶ κόρυθα βριαρὴν· ὁ δὲ τόξου πῆχυν ἀνελκε  
 καὶ βάλεν, οὐδ' ἄρα μιν ἄλιον βέλος ἔκφυγε χειρός,  
 ταρσὸν δεξιτεροῖο ποδός· διὰ δ' ἀμπερές ἰὸς  
 ἐν γαίῃ κατέπηκτο· ὁ δὲ μάλα ἡδὺν γελάσσας  
 ἐκ λόχου ἀμπήδησε καὶ εὐχόμενος ἔπος ἤυδα·  
 380 “βέβληται, οὐδ' ἄλιον βέλος ἔκφυγεν· ὥς ὄφελόν τοι  
 νείατον ἐς κενεῶνα βαλὼν ἐκ θυμὸν ἐλέσθαι.  
 οὕτω κεν καὶ Τρῶες ἀνέπνευσαν κακότητος,  
 οἳ τέ σε πεφρίκασι λέονθ' ὥς μηκάδες αἶγες.”

Τὸν δ' οὐ ταρβήσας προσέφη κρατερὸς Διομήδης·  
 385 “τοξότα, λωβητὴρ, κέρα ἀγλαέ, παρθενοπίπα,  
 εἰ μὲν δὴ ἀντίβιον σὺν τεύχεσι πειρηθείης,  
 οὐκ ἄν τοι χραίσμησι βιὸς καὶ ταρφέες ἰοί·  
 νῦν δέ μ' ἐπιγράψας ταρσὸν ποδὸς εὐχεαι αὐτῶς.  
 οὐκ ἀλέγω, ὥς εἴ με γυνὴ βάλοι ἢ πάις ἄφρων·  
 390 κωφὸν γὰρ βέλος ἀνδρὸς ἀνάλκιδος οὐτιδανοῖο.  
 ἦ τ' ἄλλως ὑπ' ἐμεῖο, καὶ εἴ κ' ὀλίγον περ ἐπαύρη,  
 ὅξυν βέλος πέλεται, καὶ ἀκήριον αἶψα τίθησι.  
 τοῦ δὲ γυναικὸς μὲν τ' ἀμφίδρυφοί εἰσι παρειαί,  
 παῖδες δ' ὀρφανικοί· ὁ δὲ θ' αἵματι γαῖαν ἐρεῦθων  
 395 πύθεται, οἰωνοὶ δὲ περὶ πλέες ἡὲ γυναιῖκες.”



So he spoke, and began to strip of his armor the son of Paeon, famed for his spear. But Alexander, husband of fair-haired Helen, aimed an arrow at Tydeus' son, shepherd of men, supporting himself against a pillar on the mound that men's hands reared for Ilus, son of Dardanus, an elder of the people in days of old. Now Diomedes was stripping the gleaming corselet of valiant Agastrophus from about his chest, and the shield from off his shoulder, and his heavy helmet, when Paris drew back the centerpiece of the bow and struck him—and not in vain did the shaft speed from his hand—on the flat of the right foot, and the arrow passed clean through and fixed itself in the ground; and with a most hearty laugh Paris leapt up from where he lurked and spoke boastfully: "You are struck, not in vain has my shaft sped; I wish I had struck you in the lower belly and taken away your life. So would the Trojans have had respite from their woe, who now tremble before you like bleating goats before a lion."

Then with no touch of fear mighty Diomedes spoke to him: "Bowman, reviler, glorious with your curling locks, you ogler of girls! I wish you would make trial of me man to man in armor; then would your bow and your swift-falling arrows help you not; but now having but grazed the flat of my foot you boast vainly. I care not for it, any more than if a woman had struck me, or a witless child, for blunt is the dart of one who is a weakling and a nobody. Differently indeed, when sped by my hand, even if it only touches, does the spear prove that it is sharp, and immediately lays low its man; torn then with wailing are the cheeks of his wife, and his children fatherless, while he, reddening the earth with his blood, rots away, more birds around him than women."

ᾠς φάτο, τοῦ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς δουρικλυτὸς ἐγγύθεν  
ἐλθὼν

ἔστη πρόσθ'· ὁ δ' ὀπισθε καθεζόμενος βέλος ὠκὺ  
ἐκ ποδὸς ἔλκ', ὀδύνη δὲ διὰ χροὸς ἦλθ' ἀλεγεινή.  
ἐς δίφρον δ' ἀνόρουσε, καὶ ἡνιόχῳ ἐπέτελλε

400 νηυσὶν ἔπι γλαφυρῆσιν ἐλαυνέμεν· ἤχθετο γὰρ κῆρ.

Οἰώθη δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς δουρικλυτός, οὐδέ τις αὐτῷ  
Ἀργείων παρέμεινε, ἐπεὶ φόβος ἔλλαβε πάντας.

ὀχθήσας δ' ἄρα εἶπε πρὸς ὃν μεγαλήτορα θυμόν·

“ὦ μοι ἐγώ, τί πάθω; μέγα μὲν κακὸν αἶ κε φέβωμαι

405 πληθὺν ταρβήσας· τὸ δὲ ρίγιον αἶ κεν ἀλώω

μῦνος· τοὺς δ' ἄλλους Δαναοὺς ἐφόβησε Κρονίων.

ἀλλὰ τί ἦ μοι ταῦτα φίλος διελέξατο θυμός;

οἶδα γὰρ ὅττι κακοὶ μὲν ἀποίχονται πολέμοιο,

ὃς δέ κ' ἀριστεύησι μάχῃ ἔνι, τὸν δὲ μάλα χρεὼ

410 ἐστάμεναι κρατερῶς, ἢ τ' ἔβλητ' ἢ τ' ἔβαλ' ἄλλον.”

Ἴσος ὁ ταῦθ' ὥρμαινε κατὰ φρένα καὶ κατὰ θυμόν,

τόφρα δ' ἐπὶ Τρώων στίχες ἤλυθον ἀσπιστάων,

ἔλσαν δ' ἐν μέσσοισι, μετὰ σφίσι πῆμα τιθέντες.<sup>15</sup>

ὥς δ' ὅτε κάπριον ἀμφὶ κύνες θαλεροὶ τ' αἰζηοὶ

415 σεύονται, ὁ δέ τ' εἴσι βαθείης ἐκ ξυλόχοιο

θήγων λευκὸν ὀδόντα μετὰ γναμπτῆσι γένυσσιν,

ἀμφὶ δέ τ' αἰσσονται, ὑπαὶ δέ τε κόμπος ὀδόντων

γίγνεται, οἱ δὲ μένουσιν ἄφαρ δεινὸν περ ἔοντα·

ὥς ῥα τότ' ἀμφ' Ὀδυσῆα διίφιλον ἐσσεύοντο

420 Τρώες· ὁ δὲ πρῶτον μὲν ἀμύμονα Δηιοπίτην

οὔτασεν ὦμον ὑπερθεν ἐπάλμενος ὅξεί δουρί,

αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα Θόωνα καὶ Ἐννομον ἐξενάριξε.

So he spoke, and to him did Odysseus, famed for his spear, draw near, and stood in front of him, and Diomedes sat down behind him, and he drew out the sharp arrow from his foot, and a painful pang shot through his flesh. Then he leapt on to his chariot and charged his charioteer to drive to the hollow ships, for he was pained at heart.

Now Odysseus, famed for his spear, was left alone, nor did anyone of the Argives remain with him, since fear had laid hold of them all. Then in agitation he spoke to his proud heart: "Ah me; what will become of me? Great evil if I flee seized with fear of the mass of men; but a worse thing if I am taken all alone, for the rest of the Danaans has the son of Cronos scattered in flight. But why does my heart debate these things with me? For I know that cowards walk away from war, but whoever is preeminent in battle, for him surely there is great need to hold his ground boldly, whether he be struck, or strike another."

While he pondered thus in mind and heart, meanwhile the ranks of the shield-bearing Trojans came on and hemmed him in their midst, setting on themselves their own ruin. And just as hounds and vigorous youths press on a boar on all sides, and he comes out from the deep thicket, whetting his white tusks in his curving jaws, and they charge him from all sides, and there arises the sound of the clash of tusks, but they are quick to face him, terrifying though he is; so then around Odysseus, dear to Zeus, did the Trojans press. But first he struck incomparable Deïopites from above in the shoulder, leaping on him with sharp spear; and then he slew Thoön and Ennomus, and

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<sup>15</sup> πῆμα τιθέντες: πῆμα δὲ ἔλσαν Zenodotus.

Χερσιδάμαντα δ' ἔπειτα, καθ' ἵππων αἰζαντα,  
 δουρὶ κατὰ πρότμησιν ὑπ' ἀσπίδος ὀμφαλοέσσης  
 425 νύξεν· ὁ δ' ἐν κονίησι πεσὼν ἔλε γαῖαν ἀγοστώ.  
 τοὺς μὲν ἕασ', ὁ δ' ἄρ' Ἴππασίδην Χάροπ' οὔτασε  
 δουρί,

αὐτοκασίγνητον εὐηφενέος<sup>16</sup> Σώκοιο.  
 τῷ δ' ἐπαλεξήσων Σῶκος κίεν, ἰσόθεος φῶς,  
 στη δὲ μάλ' ἐγγὺς ἰὼν καί μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·  
 430 “ὦ Ὀδυσεῦ πολύαινε, δόλων ἅτ' ἠδὲ πόνοιο,  
 σήμερον ἢ δοιοῖσιν ἐπεύξαι Ἴππασίδησι,  
 τοιῷδ' ἄνδρε κατακτείνας καὶ τεύχε' ἀπούρας,  
 ἢ κεν ἐμῷ ὑπὸ δουρὶ τυπεῖς ἀπὸ θυμὸν ὀλέσσης.”

“Ὡς εἰπὼν οὔτησε κατ' ἀσπίδα πάντοσ' εἴσην.  
 435 διὰ μὲν ἀσπίδος ἦλθε φαεινῆς ὄβριμον ἔγχος,  
 καὶ διὰ θώρηκος πολυδαιδάλου ἠρήρειστο,  
 πάντα δ' ἀπὸ πλευρῶν χροά ἔργαθεν, οὐδ' ἔτ' ἔασε  
 Παλλὰς Ἀθηναίη μιχθήμεναι ἔγκασι φωτός.  
 γνῶ δ' Ὀδυσεὺς ὅ οἱ οὔ τι βέλος<sup>17</sup> κατακαίριον ἦλθεν,  
 440 ἅψ δ' ἀναχωρήσας Σῶκον πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·  
 “ἂ δεῖλ', ἦ μάλα δή σε κιχάνεται αἰπὺς ὄλεθρος.  
 ἦ τοι μὲν ῥ' ἔμ' ἔπαυσας ἐπὶ Τρώεσσι μάχεσθαι·  
 σοὶ δ' ἐγὼ ἐνθάδε φημὶ φόνον καὶ κῆρα μέλαιναν  
 ἥματι τῷδ' ἔσσεσθαι, ἐμῷ δ' ὑπὸ δουρὶ δαμέντα  
 445 εὔχος ἐμοὶ δώσειν, ψυχὴν δ' Ἀῖδι κλυτοπόλῳ.”

Ἦ, καὶ ὁ μὲν φύγαδ' αὐτὶς ὑποστρέψας ἐβεβήκει,  
 τῷ δὲ μεταστρεφθέντι μεταφρένῳ ἐν δόρυ πῆξεν  
 ὤμων μεσσηγύς, διὰ δὲ στήθεσφιν ἔλασσε.

then Chersidamas as he leapt down from his chariot he stabbed with his spear on the navel beneath his bossed shield; and he fell in the dust and clutched the earth with his hand. These then he left, but struck Charops, son of Hippasus, with a thrust of his spear, the brother of wealthy Socus. And to assist him came Socus, a godlike man; he came up and stood close to Odysseus and spoke to him, saying: "Odysseus, greatly to be praised, insatiate in wiles and in toil, this day will you either boast over both sons of Hippasus, having slain two such warriors and stripped them of their armor, or else struck by my spear you will lose your life."

So saying, he struck on his shield that was well balanced on every side. Through the bright shield went the mighty spear, and through the corselet, richly worked, did it force its way, and all the flesh it sheared off from his side; but Pallas Athene did not allow it to pierce the inwards of the warrior. And Odysseus knew that the spear had not lighted on a fatal spot, and he gave ground and spoke to Socus, saying: "Ah wretch, surely sheer destruction has caught up with you. Though you have made me cease from fighting against the Trojans, on you I say that here death and black fate will this day come, and that vanquished by my spear you will give glory to me, and your soul to Hades of the noble steeds."

He spoke, and the other turned back and started to flee but, just as he turned, Odysseus fixed the spear in his back between the shoulders, and drove it through his chest.

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<sup>16</sup> εὐηφενέος: εὐηγενέος MSS.

<sup>17</sup> βέλος Zenodotus: τέλος Aristarchus.

- δούπησεν δὲ πεσών· ὁ δ' ἐπεύξατο δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς·  
 450 “ὦ Σῶχ', Ἰππάσου νιὲ δαΐφρονος ἵπποδάμοιο,  
 φθῇ σε τέλος<sup>18</sup> θανάτοιο κιχήμενον, οὐδ' ὑπάλνξας.  
 ἂ δεῖλ', οὐ μὲν σοί γε πατήρ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ  
 ὅσσε καθαιρήσουσι θανόντι περ, ἀλλ' οἶωνοὶ  
 ὤμησταὶ ἐρύουσι, περὶ πτερὰ πυκνὰ βαλόντες.  
 455 αὐτὰρ ἔμ', εἴ κε θάνω, κτεριουῖσί γε δῖοι Ἀχαιοί.”  
 Ὡς εἰπὼν Σώκοιο δαΐφρονος ὄβριμον ἔγχος  
 ἔξω τε χροὸς ἔλκε καὶ ἀσπίδος ὀμφαλοέσσης·  
 αἶμα δέ οἱ σπασθέντος ἀνέσσυτο, κῆδε δὲ θυμόν.  
 Τρῶες δὲ μεγάθυμοι ἐπεὶ ἴδον αἶμ' Ὀδυσῆος,  
 460 κεκλόμενοι καθ' ὅμιλον ἐπ' αὐτῷ πάντες ἔβησαν.  
 αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ἐξοπίσω ἀνεχάζετο, αὔε δ' ἐταίρους.  
 τρὶς μὲν ἔπειτ' ἦνσεν ὅσον κεφαλὴ χάδε φωτός,  
 τρὶς δ' αἶεν ἰάχοντος ἀρηίφιλος Μενέλαος.  
 αἶψα δ' ἄρ' Αἴαντα προσεφώνεεν ἐγγὺς ἑόντα·  
 465 “Αἴαν διογενὲς Τελαμώνιε, κοίρανε λαῶν,  
 ἀμφί μ' Ὀδυσσῆος ταλασίφρονος ἔκετ' αὐτή,  
 τῷ ἱκέλη ὥς εἴ ἐ βιώατο μῶνον ἑόντα  
 Τρῶες ἀποτμήξαντες ἐνὶ κρατερῇ ὑσμίνῃ.  
 ἀλλ' ἵομεν καθ' ὅμιλον· ἀλεξέμεναι γὰρ ἄμεινον.  
 470 δεῖδω μή τι πάθῃσιν ἐνὶ Τρώεσσι μονωθείς,  
 ἐσθλὸς ἑών, μεγάλη δὲ ποθὴ Δαναοῖσι γένηται.”  
 Ὡς εἰπὼν ὁ μὲν ἦρχ', ὃ δ' ἄμ' ἔσπετο ἰσόθεος φῶς.  
 εὔρον ἔπειτ' Ὀδυσῆα δίφιλον· ἀμφὶ δ' ἄρ' αὐτὸν  
 Τρῶες ἔπονθ' ὥς εἴ τε δαφοινοὶ θῶες ὄρεσφιν  
 475 ἀμφ' ἔλαφον κεραὸν βεβλημένον, ὃν τ' ἔβαλ' ἀνὴρ

And he fell with a thud, and noble Odysseus exulted over him: "Ah Socus, son of battle-minded Hippasus, tamer of horses, the end of death has been too quick in catching up with you; you have not escaped it. Ah poor wretch, your father and queenly mother will not close your eyes in death, but the birds that eat raw flesh will rend you, beating their wings thick and fast about you; but to me, if I die, the noble Achaeans will give burial."

So saying he drew the mighty spear of battle-minded Socus out from his flesh and from his bossed shield, and when it was drawn out the blood gushed and distressed his heart. But the great-hearted Trojans, when they saw the blood of Odysseus, called to one another through the throng and went at him all together. But he gave ground, and shouted to his comrades; thrice then he uttered a shout as great as his head could hold, and thrice did Menelaus, dear to Ares, hear his call, and immediately he spoke to Aias who was near at hand: "Aias, sprung from Zeus, Telamon's son, lord of men, in my ears rang the cry of Odysseus of the steadfast heart, as though the Trojans had cut him off in the mighty combat and were overpowering him alone as he is. But let us go through the throng; to assist him is the better course. I fear that some evil may befall him, alone among the Trojans, mighty though he is, and great longing for him come upon the Danaans."

So saying he led the way, and Aias followed, a god-like man. Then they found Odysseus, dear to Zeus, and round about the Trojans beset him, like tawny jackals in the mountains about a horned stag that has been wounded,

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<sup>18</sup> τέλος; βέλος Zenodotus.

- ἰὼ ἀπὸ νευρῆς· τὸν μὲν τ' ἤλυξε πόδεσσι  
 φεύγων, ὄφρ' αἶμα λιαρὸν καὶ γούνατ' ὀρώρη·  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ τὸν γε δαμάσσεται ὤκυνς οἰστός,  
 ὠμοφάγοι μιν θῶες ἐν οὔρεσι δαρδάπτουσιν  
 480 ἐν νέμεϊ σκιερῷ.<sup>19</sup> ἐπὶ τε λῖν ἤγαγε δαίμων  
 σίντην· θῶες μὲν τε διέτρεσαν, αὐτὰρ ὁ δάπτει·  
 ὥς ῥα τότε ἄμφ' Ὀδυσῆα δαΐφρονα ποικιλομήτην  
 Τρῶες ἔπον πολλοί τε καὶ ἄλκιμοι, αὐτὰρ ὁ γ' ἥρως  
 αἰσσων ᾧ ἔγχει ἀμύνετο νηλεὲς ἦμαρ.  
 485 Αἴας δ' ἐγγύθεν ἦλθε φέρων σάκος ἤνυτε πύργον,  
 στή δὲ παρέξ· Τρῶες δὲ διέτρεσαν ἄλλυδις ἄλλος.  
 ἦ τοι τὸν Μενέλαος ἀρήιος ἔξαγ' ὀμίλου  
 χειρὸς ἔχων, ἥος θεράπων σχεδὸν ἤλασεν ἵππους.  
 Αἴας δὲ Τρώεσσιν ἐπάλμενος εἶλε Δόρυκλον  
 490 Πριαμίδην, νόθον υἱόν, ἔπειτα δὲ Πάνδοκον οὔτα,  
 οὔτα δὲ Λύσανδρον καὶ Πύρασον ἠδὲ Πυλάρτην.  
 ὥς δ' ὁπότε πλήθων ποταμὸς πεδίοις<sup>20</sup> κάτεισι,  
 χειμάρρους κατ' ὄρεσφιν, ὁπαζόμενος Διὸς ὄμβρω,  
 495 πολλὰς δὲ δρυὺς ἀζαλέας, πολλὰς δέ τε πεύκας  
 ἐσφέρεται, πολλὸν δέ τ' ἀφυσγετὸν εἰς ἄλα βάλλει,  
 ὥς ἔφεπε κλονέων πεδίον τότε φαίδιμος Αἴας,  
 δαΐζων ἵππους τε καὶ ἀνέρας. οὐδέ πω Ἴκτωρ  
 πεύθετ', ἐπεὶ ῥα μάχης ἐπ' ἀριστερὰ μάρνατο πάσης,  
 ὄχθας πὰρ ποταμοῖο Σκαμάνδρον, τῇ ῥα μάλιστα  
 500 ἀνδρῶν πίπτε κάρηνα, βοῇ δ' ἄσβεστος ὀρώρει  
 Νέστορά τ' ἀμφὶ μέγαν καὶ ἀρήιον Ἴδομενῆα.

<sup>19</sup> σκιερῷ: γλαφυρῷ Zenodotus.



that a man has struck with an arrow from the string; from him the stag has escaped and flees swiftly so long as the blood flows warm and his knees are quick, but when at length the swift arrow overpowers him, then ravening jackals rend him among the mountains in a shadowy grove; but a god brings against them a murderous lion, and the jackals scatter in flight, and he rends the prey: so then did the Trojans, many and valiant, beset Odysseus on all sides, the wise and crafty-minded; but the warrior darting out with his spear warded off the pitiless day of doom. Then Aias came up, carrying his shield that was like a city wall, and stood beside him, and the Trojans scattered in flight, one here, one there. And warlike Menelaus led Odysseus out of the throng, holding him by the hand, until his attendant drove up the horses and chariot.

Then Aias leapt on the Trojans and slew Doryclus, bastard son of Priam, and after him struck Pandocus with a thrust, and likewise Lysander and Pyrasus and Pylartes. And as when a river in flood comes down on a plain, a winter torrent from the mountains, driven on by the rain of Zeus, and many a dry oak and many a pine it bears in its course, and much driftwood it casts into the sea, so glorious Aias charged tumultuously over the plain on that day, slaying horses and men. But Hector as yet knew nothing of this, since he was fighting on the far left of the battle by the banks of the river Scamander, where the heads of warriors were falling most, and a cry unquenchable arose around great Nestor and warlike Idomeneus. With these was Hec-

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<sup>20</sup> *κάτεισι: δίηται* Zenodotus.

- Ἐκτωρ μὲν μετὰ τοῖσιν ὁμίλει μέρμερα ῥέζων  
 ἔγχε' ἦ' ἱπποσύνη τε, νέων δ' ἀλάπαζε φάλαγγας.  
 οὐδ' ἄν πω χάζοντο κελεύθου δῖοι Ἀχαιοί,  
 505 εἰ μὴ Ἀλέξανδρος, Ἑλένης πόσις ἠυκόμοιο,  
 παῦσεν ἀριστεύοντα Μαχάονα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
 ἰῶ τριγλώχινι βαλὼν κατὰ δεξιὸν ὦμον.  
 τῷ ῥα περιδδεισαν μένεα πνείοντες Ἀχαιοί,  
 μή πῶς μιν πολέμοιο μετακλινθέντος ἔλοιεν.  
 510 αὐτίκα δ' Ἴδομενεὺς προσεφώνεε Νέστορα δῖον·  
 “ὦ Νέστορ Νηληιάδη, μέγα κῦδος Ἀχαιῶν,  
 ἄγρει, σῶν ὀχέων ἐπιβήσεο, παρ δὲ Μαχάων  
 βαϊνέτω, ἐς νῆας δὲ τάχιστ' ἔχε μώνυχας ἵππους·  
 ἱητρὸς γὰρ ἀνὴρ πολλῶν ἀντάξιός ἄλλων  
 515 ἰοὺς τ' ἐκτάμνειν ἐπὶ τ' ἥπια φάρμακα πᾶσσειν.”<sup>21</sup>  
 ὣς ἔφατ', οὐδ' ἀπίθησε Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ.  
 αὐτίκα δ' ὦν ὀχέων ἐπιβήσετο, παρ δὲ Μαχάων  
 βαῖν', Ἀσκληπιοῦ υἱὸς ἀμύμονος ἱητῆρος·  
 μᾶστιξεν δ' ἵππους, τῷ δ' οὐκ ἀέκοντε πετέσθην  
 520 νῆας ἐπὶ γλαφυράς· τῇ γὰρ φίλον ἔπλετο θυμῷ.  
 Κεβριόνης δὲ Τρῶας ὀρινομένους ἐνόησεν  
 Ἐκτορι παρβεβαώς, καί μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν·  
 “Ἐκτορ, νῶι μὲν ἐνθάδ' ὁμιλέομεν Δαναοῖσιν  
 ἐσχατιῇ πολέμοιο δυσηχέος, οἱ δὲ δὴ ἄλλοι  
 525 Τρῶες ὀρίνονται ἐπιμίζ', ἵπποι τε καὶ αὐτοί.  
 Αἴας δὲ κλονέει Τελαμώνιος· εὖ δέ μιν ἔγνων·  
 εὐρὺν γὰρ ἀμφ' ὤμοισιν ἔχει σάκος· ἀλλὰ καὶ ἡμεῖς  
 κεῖσ' ἵππους τε καὶ ἄρμ' ἰθύνομεν, ἐνθα μάλιστα

tor engaged, and grim deeds he performed with the spear and in horsemanship, and he was destroying the battalions of young men. Yet the noble Achaeans would in no way have given ground from their course, had not Alexander, the husband of fair-haired Helen, halted Machaon, shepherd of men, in the course of his prowess, and struck him on the right shoulder with a three-barbed arrow. Then greatly did the Achaeans breathing fury fear for him lest perhaps men should slay him in the turning of the fight. And immediately Idomeneus spoke to noble Nestor: "Nestor, son of Neleus, great glory of the Achaeans, come, mount your chariot, and let Machaon mount beside you, and swiftly drive your single-hoofed horses to the ships. For a healer is worth many other men for the cutting out of arrows and the sprinkling on of soothing herbs."

So he spoke, and the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia, failed not to obey. At once he mounted his chariot, and beside him mounted Machaon, the son of Asclepius the incomparable healer; and he touched the horses with the whip, and nothing loath the pair flew on to the hollow ships, for there were they eager to be.

But Cebriones saw the Trojans being driven in rout as he stood by Hector's side in his chariot, and he spoke to him, saying: "Hector, we are engaged with the Danaans here on the edges of dolorous war, but the other Trojans are being driven in rout confusedly, both horses and men. And it is Aias, son of Telamon, who drives them; well do I know him, for wide is the shield he has around his shoulders. But let us, too, drive there our horses and chariot,

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<sup>21</sup> Line 515 was rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

- ἱππῆες πεζοί τε κακὴν ἔριδα προβαλόντες  
 530 ἀλλήλους ὀλέκουσι, βοὴ δ' ἄσβεστος ὄρωρεν.”  
 Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας ἵμασεν καλλίτριχας ἵππους  
 μάστιγι λιγυρῇ· τοὶ δὲ πληγῆς αἶοντες  
 ῥίμφ' ἔφερον θοὸν ἄρμα μετὰ Τρῶας καὶ Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 στείβοντες νέκυάς τε καὶ ἀσπίδας· αἵματι δ' ἄζων  
 535 νέρθεν ἅπας πεπάλακτο καὶ ἄντυγες αἱ περὶ δίφρον,  
 ἃς ἄρ' ἀφ' ἱππέων ὀπλέων ῥαθάμιγγες ἔβαλλον  
 αἶ τ' ἀπ' ἐπισσώτρων. ὁ δὲ ἴετο δύναι ὄμιλον  
 ἀνδρόμεον ῥῆξαι τε μετάλμενος· ἐν δὲ κυδοιμὸν  
 ἦκε κακὸν Δαναοῖσι, μίνυνθα δὲ χάζετο δουρός.  
 540 αὐτὰρ ὁ τῶν ἄλλων ἐπεπωλείτο στίχας ἀνδρῶν  
 ἔγχεϊ τ' ἄορί τε μεγάλοισι τε χερμαδίοισιν,  
 542 Αἴαντος δ' ἀλέεινε μάχην Τελαμωνιάδαο.<sup>22</sup>  
 544 Ζεὺς δὲ πατὴρ Αἴανθ' ὑψίζυγος ἐν φόβον ὤρσε·  
 545 στῆ δὲ ταφών, ὅπιθεν δὲ σάκος βάλεν ἑπταβόειον,  
 τρέσσε δὲ παπτήνας ἐφ' ὀμίλου, θηρὶ ἐοικώς,  
 ἐντροπαλιζόμενος, ὀλίγον γόνυ γουνὸς ἀμείβων.  
 ὥς δ' αἶθωνα λέοντα βοῶν ἀπὸ μεσσαύλοιο<sup>23</sup>  
 ἐσσεύαντο κύνες τε καὶ ἀνέρες ἀγροιώται,  
 550 οἳ τέ μιν οὐκ εἰῶσι βοῶν ἐκ πίᾱρ ἐλέσθαι  
 πάννυχοι ἐγρήσσοντες· ὁ δὲ κρειῶν ἐρατίζων  
 ἰθύει, ἀλλ' οὔ τι πρήσσει· θαμέες γὰρ ἄκοντες  
 ἀντίον αἰσσουσι θρασειᾶν ἀπὸ χειρῶν,  
 καιόμεναί τε δεταί, τὰς τε τρεῖ ἐσσύμενός περ·  
 555 ἠῶθεν δ' ἀπονόσφιν ἔβη τετιηότι θυμῷ·

where most of all horsemen and foot soldiers, vying in evil strife, are slaying one another, and the unquenchable cry goes up."

So saying he lashed the fair-maned horses with the shrill-sounding whip, and they, feeling the blow, lightly bore the swift chariot among the Trojans and Achaeans, trampling on the dead and on the shields, and with blood was all the axle sprinkled below, and the rims round about the chariot, with the drops that struck on them from the horses' hooves and from the tires. And Hector was eager to enter the throng of men, to leap in and shatter it, and an evil din of war he sent among the Danaans, and little rest did he give his spear. But he ranged along the ranks of the other warriors with spear and sword and with great stones; but he avoided battle with Aias, son of Telamon.

Now father Zeus, throned on high, roused Aias to flight, and he stood in a daze, and on to his back he cast his seven-fold shield of bull's hide, and with an anxious glance toward the throng he gave way, like a wild beast, constantly turning about and retreating slowly step by step. And just as a tawny lion is driven from the fold of the cattle by dogs and country people, who do not allow him to seize the fattest of the herd, as they watch the whole night through, but he in his lust for flesh goes straight on, yet accomplishes nothing, for thick the darts fly to meet him, from bold hands, and blazing brands, before which he quails though he is very eager, and at dawn he departs with sullen heart;

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<sup>22</sup> After line 542 Aristotle and Plutarch give a line not found in the MSS of the *Iliad*,

Ζεὺς γάρ οἱ νεμέσασχ' ὅτ' ἀμείνονι φωτὶ μάχοιτο.

<sup>23</sup> Lines 548–557 were rejected by Zenodotus.

- ὥς Αἴας τότ' ἀπὸ Τρώων τετιημένος ἦτορ  
 ἦιε πόλλ' ἀέκων· περὶ γὰρ δῖε νηυσὶν Ἀχαιῶν.  
 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ὄνος παρ' ἄρουραν ἰὼν ἐβιήσατο παῖδας  
 νωθῆς, ᾧ δὴ πολλὰ περὶ ρόπαλ' ἀμφὶς ἐάγη,  
 560 κείρει τ' εἰσελθὼν βαθὺ λήιον· οἱ δέ τε παῖδες  
 τύπτουσιν ῥοπάλοισι· βίη δέ τε νηπὶή αὐτῶν·  
 σπουδῇ τ' ἐξήλασσαν, ἐπεὶ τ' ἐκορέσσατο φορβῆς·  
 ὥς τότ' ἔπειτ' Αἴαντα μέγαν, Τελαμώνιον υἱόν,  
 Τρῶες ὑπέρθυμοι πολυηγερέες τ' ἐπίκουροι  
 565 νύσσουντες ξυστοῖσι μέσον σάκος αἰὲν ἔποντο.  
 Αἴας δ' ἄλλοτε μὲν μνησάσκετο θούριδος ἀλκῆς  
 αὐτὶς ὑποστρεφθεὶς, καὶ ἐρητύσασκε φάλαγγας  
 Τρώων ἵπποδάμων, ὅτε δὲ τρωπάσκετο φεύγειν.  
 πάντας δὲ προέεργε θοὰς ἐπὶ νῆας ὁδεύειν,  
 570 αὐτὸς δὲ Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν θῦνε μεσηγὺ  
 ἱστάμενος. τὰ δὲ δοῦρα θρασειάων ἀπὸ χειρῶν  
 ἄλλα μὲν ἐν σάκεϊ μεγάλῳ πάγεν ὄρμενα πρόσσω,  
 πολλὰ δὲ καὶ μεσσηγύ, πάρος χρóa λευκὸν ἐπαυρεῖν,  
 ἐν γαίῃ ἴσταντο, λιλαιόμενα χροδὸς ᾄσαι.  
 575 Τὸν δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησ' Εὐαίμονος ἀγλαὸς υἱὸς  
 Εὐρύπυλος πυκινοῖσι βιαζόμενον βελέεσσι,  
 στή ρα παρ' αὐτὸν ἰὼν, καὶ ἀκόντισε δουρὶ φαεινῷ,  
 καὶ βάλε Φανσιάδην Ἀπισάονα, ποιμένα λαῶν,  
 ἦπαρ ὑπὸ πραπίδων, εἴθαρ δ' ὑπὸ γούνατ' ἔλυσεν·  
 580 Εὐρύπυλος δ' ἐπόρουσε καὶ αἶνυτο τεύχε' ἀπ' ὤμων.  
 τὸν δ' ὥς οὖν ἐνόησεν Ἀλέξανδρος θεοειδῆς  
 τεύχε' ἀπαινύμενον Ἀπισάονος, αὐτίκα τόξον  
 ἔλκετ' ἐπ' Εὐρυνπύλῳ, καὶ μιν βάλε μηρὸν οἰστῶ

so Aias then gave way before the Trojans, sullen at heart and much against his will, for greatly did he fear for the ships of the Achaeans. And as when an ass that passes by a cornfield gets the better of boys—an obstinate ass about whose ribs many a cudgel is broken—and he goes in and wastes the deep grain, and the boys beat him with cudgels, though their strength is but puny, and with difficulty they drive him out when he has had his fill of fodder; so then did the Trojans, high of heart, and their allies gathered from many lands, strike great Aias, son of Telamon, with spears square on his shield, and constantly press on him. And Aias would at one time recall his furious valor, wheeling on them, and would hold back the battalions of the horse-taming Trojans, and then again he would turn to flee. But he barred them all from making their way to the swift ships, and himself taking his stand between Trojans and Achaeans battled furiously. And the spears hurled by bold hands were some of them lodged in his great shield, as they sped onward, and many, before they reached his white flesh, stood fixed midway in the earth, eager to glut themselves with flesh.

But when Euaemon's glorious son, Eurypylus, saw him oppressed by thick-flying missiles, he came and stood by his side and hurled with his shining spear, and struck Apisaon, Phausius' son, shepherd of men, in the liver below the midriff, and immediately loosed his knees; and Eurypylus leapt on him and began to strip the armor from his shoulders. But when godlike Alexander noticed him stripping the armor from Apisaon, at once he drew his bow against Eurypylus, and struck him with an arrow on the

- δεξιόν· ἐκλάσθη δὲ δόναξ, ἐβάρυνε δὲ μηρόν.  
 585 ἄψ δ' ἐτάρων εἰς ἔθνος ἐχάζετο κῆρ' ἀλεείνων,  
 ἦνυσεν δὲ διαπρύσιον Δαναοῖσι γεγωνώς·  
 “ὦ φίλοι, Ἀργείων ἡγήτορες ἡδὲ μέδοντες,  
 στήτ' ἐλελιχθέντες καὶ ἀμύνετε νηλεὲς ἡμαρ  
 Αἴανθ', ὃς βελέεσσι βιάζεται· οὐδέ ἔφημι  
 590 φεύξεσθ' ἐκ πολέμοιο δυσηχέος· ἀλλὰ μάλ' ἄντην  
 ἴστασθ' ἀμφ' Αἴαντα μέγαν, Τελαμώνιον υἱόν.”  
 “Ὡς ἔφατ' Εὐρύπυλος βεβλημένος· οἱ δὲ παρ' αὐτὸν  
 πλησίοι ἕστησαν, σάκε' ὥμοισι κλίναντες,  
 δούρατ' ἀνασχόμενοι· τῶν δ' ἀντίος ἦλυθεν Αἴας.  
 595 στή δὲ μεταστρεφθείς, ἐπεὶ ἵκετο ἔθνος ἐταίρων.  
 “Ὡς οἱ μὲν μάρναντο δέμας πυρὸς αἰθομένοιο·  
 Νέστορα δ' ἐκ πολέμοιο φέρον Νηλήϊαι ἵπποι  
 ἰδρῶσαι, ἦγον δὲ Μαχάονα, ποιμένα λαῶν.  
 τὸν δὲ ἰδὼν ἐνόησε ποδάρκης δῖος Ἀχιλλεύς·  
 600 ἐστήκει γὰρ ἐπὶ πρυμνῇ μεγακήτεϊ νηί,  
 εἰσορόων πόνον αἰπὺν ἰώκά τε δακρυνόεσσαν.  
 αἶψα δ' ἐταῖρον ἐὼν Πατροκλῆα προσέειπε,  
 φθегξάμενος παρὰ νηός· ὁ δὲ κλισίηθεν ἀκούσας  
 ἐκμολεν ἴσος Ἄρηι, κακοῦ δ' ἄρα οἱ πέλεν ἀρχή.  
 605 τὸν πρότερος προσέειπε Μενoitίου ἄλκιμος υἱός·  
 “τίπτέ με κικλήσκεις, Ἀχιλεῦ; τί δέ σε χρεὼ ἐμέιο;”  
 τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλλεύς·  
 “δῖε Μενoitιάδη, τῷ ἐμῷ κεχαρισμένε θυμῷ,  
 νῦν οἶω περὶ γούνατ' ἐμὰ στήσεσθαι Ἀχαιοὺς  
 610 λισσομένους· χρεῖῳ γὰρ ἰκάνεται οὐκέτ' ἀνεκτός.  
 ἀλλ' ἴθι νῦν, Πάτροκλε δῖοφιλε, Νέστορ' ἔρειο



right thigh; and the reed of the arrow broke, and his thigh was made heavy. Then back he shrank into the throng of his comrades, avoiding fate, and he uttered a piercing shout, calling aloud to the Danaans: "My friends, leaders and rulers of the Argives, turn around and stand, and ward off the pitiless day of doom from Aias who is oppressed with missiles; nor do I think that he will escape from dolorous war. But stand and face the foe about great Aias, son of Telamon."

So spoke the wounded Eurypylus, and they came and stood close beside him, leaning their shields against their shoulders and with spears outstretched; and toward them came Aias, and turned and stood when he had reached the throng of his comrades.

So they fought like blazing fire; but the mares of Neleus, all bathed in sweat, carried Nestor out from the battle, and brought also Machaon, shepherd of men. And swift-footed noble Achilles looked on and caught sight of him, for he was standing on the stern of his ship, huge of hull, gazing on the utter toil of battle and the tearful rout. And immediately he spoke to his comrade Patroclus, calling to him from the ship; and he heard, and came out of the hut like Ares; and this to him was the beginning of evil. Then the valiant son of Menoetius spoke first: "Why do you call me, Achilles? What need have you of me?" And in answer to him spoke Achilles, swift of foot: "Noble son of Menoetius, dear to my heart, now, I imagine, the Achaeans will be standing about my knees begging, for need past all bearing has come upon them. But go now, Patroclus, dear to Zeus, and ask Nestor who it is that he is bringing

ὄν τινα τοῦτον ἄγει βεβλημένον ἐκ πολέμοιο·  
 ἦ τοι μὲν τά γ' ὅπισθε Μαχάονι πάντα ἔοικε  
 τῷ Ἀσκληπιάδῃ, ἀτὰρ οὐκ ἴδον ὄμματα φωτός·

615 ἵπποι γάρ με παρήϊξαν πρόσσω μεμανῖαι.”

Ὡς φάτο, Πάτροκλος δὲ φίλῳ ἐπεπείθεθ' ἐταίρῳ,  
 βῆ δὲ θέειν παρά τε κλισίας καὶ νῆας Ἀχαιῶν.

Οἱ δ' ὅτε δὴ κλισίην Νηληιάδew ἀφίκοντο,  
 αὐτοὶ μὲν ῥ' ἀπέβησαν ἐπὶ χθόνα πουλυβότειραν,  
 620 ἵππους δ' Εὐρυμέδων θεράπων λύε τοῖο γέροντος  
 ἐξ ὀχέων· τοὶ δ' ἰδρῷ ἀπεψύχοντο χιτώνων,  
 στάντε ποτὶ πνοιὴν παρὰ θῖν' ἁλός· αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα  
 εἰς κλισίην ἐλθόντες ἐπὶ κλισμοῖσι κάθιζον.

τοῖσι δὲ τεύχε κυκειῷ ἐνπλόκαμος Ἑκαμήδῃ,  
 625 τὴν ἄρετ' ἐκ Τενέδοιο γέρων, ὅτε πέρσεν Ἀχιλλεύς,  
 θυγατέρ' Ἀρσινόου μεγαλήτορος, ἣν οἱ Ἀχαιοὶ  
 ἔξελον, οὐνεκα βουλῇ ἀριστεύεσκεν ἀπάντων.

ἣ σφωιν πρῶτον μὲν ἐπιπροΐηλε τράπεζαν  
 καλὴν κυανόπεζαν εὐξοον, αὐτὰρ ἐπ' αὐτῆς  
 630 χάλκειον κάνεον, ἐπὶ δὲ κρόμνον ποτῷ ὄψον,  
 ἥδὲ μέλι χλωρόν, παρὰ δ' ἀλφίτον ἱεροῦ ἀκτῆν,  
 παρ δὲ δέπας περικαλλές, ὃ οἴκοθεν ἦγ' ὁ γεραιός,  
 χρυσείοις ἥλοισι πεπαρμένον· οὔατα δ' αὐτοῦ  
 τέσσαρ' ἔσαν, δοιαὶ δὲ πελειάδες ἀμφὶς ἕκαστον  
 635 χρύσειαι νεμέθοντο, δύω δ' ὑπὸ πυθμένες ἦσαν.  
 ἄλλος μὲν μογέων ἀποκινήσασκε τραπέζης

<sup>4</sup> A gold cup, very nearly answering to this description, but with two handles instead of four, was found by Schliemann

wounded out from the war. From the back he certainly looks in all things like Machaon, son of Asclepius, but I did not see the eyes of the man, for the horses darted by me, speeding eagerly onward."

So he spoke, and Patroclus obeyed his dear comrade, and went running along the huts and the ships of the Achaeans.

But when those others had come to the hut of the son of Neleus, they stepped out on the bounteous earth, and Eurymedon the attendant loosed old Nestor's horses from the chariot, and the two dried the sweat from their tunics standing in the breeze by the shore of the sea; and then they went into the hut and sat down on chairs. And for them fair-tressed Hecamede mixed a potion, she whom old Nestor had taken out of Tenedos when Achilles sacked it, the daughter of great-hearted Arsinous; the Achaeans chose her out for him, since in counsel he was ever best of all. She first drew before the two of them a table, fair, with feet of cyanus, and well-polished, and set on it a basket of bronze, and in it an onion, a relish for their drink, and pale honey, and ground meal of holy barley; and beside them a beautiful cup, which the old man had brought from home, studded with golden nails; four were its handles, and about each two doves were feeding, while below were two supports.<sup>4</sup> Another man could barely budge that cup from the

at Mycenae (see Carl Schuchhardt, *Schliemann's Excavations*, p. 271). A dove with outspread wings stands on the top of either handle, and from the lower part of the handles strips of gold extend to the outer rim of the base of the cup. These correspond well to the *πυθμένες* mentioned in the text. M. But see Hainsworth ad loc. in vol. III of the Cambridge commentary. W.

- πλείον ἔόν, Νέστωρ δ' ὁ γέρων ἀμογητὶ ἄειρεν.  
 ἐν τῷ ῥά σφι κύκησε γυνὴ εἰκυῖα θεῇσιν  
 οἶνω Πραμνείῳ, ἐπὶ δ' αἴγειον κνή τυρὸν  
 640 κνήστι χαλκείῃ, ἐπὶ δ' ἄλφιστα λευκὰ πάλυνε,  
 πινέμεναι δὲ κέλευσεν, ἐπεὶ ῥ' ὤπλισσε κυκείῳ.  
 τὼ δ' ἐπεὶ οὖν πίνουντ' ἀφέτην πολυκαγκέα δῖψαν,  
 μύθοισιν τέρποντο πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἐνέποντες,  
 Πάτροκλος δὲ θύρησιν ἐφίστατο, ἰσόθεος φῶς.  
 645 τὸν δὲ ἰδὼν ὁ γεραιὸς ἀπὸ θρόνου ὦρτο φαεινοῦ,  
 ἐς δ' ἄγε χειρὸς ἐλών, κατὰ δ' ἐδριάσθαι ἄνωγε.  
 Πάτροκλος δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἀναίνεται εἰπέ τε μῦθον·  
 “οὐχ ἔδος ἐστί, γεραιὲ διοτρεφές, οὐδέ με πείσεις.  
 αἰδοῖος νεμεσητὸς ὃ με προέηκε πυθέσθαι  
 650 ὃν τινα τοῦτον ἄγεις βεβλημένον. ἀλλὰ καὶ αὐτὸς  
 γινώσκω, ὁρώω δὲ Μαχάονα, ποιμένα λαῶν.  
 νῦν δὲ ἔπος ἐρέων πάλιν ἄγγελος εἶμ' Ἀχιλῆι.  
 εὔ δὲ σὺ οἶσθα, γεραιὲ διοτρεφές, οἷος ἐκείνος  
 δεινὸς ἀνὴρ· τάχα κεν καὶ ἀναίτιον αἰτιόωτο.”  
 655 Τὸν δ' ἡμείβετ' ἔπειτα Γερήνιος ἱππότα Νέστωρ·  
 “τίπτε τ' ἄρ' ὦδ' Ἀχιλεὺς ὀλοφύρεται νῆας Ἀχαιῶν,  
 ὅσσοι δὴ βέλεσιν βεβλήηται; οὐδέ τι οἶδε  
 πένθεος, ὅσσον ὄρωρε κατὰ στρατόν· οἱ γὰρ ἄριστοι  
 ἐν νηυσὶν κέαται βεβλημένοι οὐτάμενοί τε.  
 660 βέβληται μὲν ὁ Τυδείδης κρατερὸς Διομήδης,  
 οὐτάσται δ' Ὀδυσεὺς δουρικλυτὸς ἦδ' Ἀγαμέμνων·  
 βέβληται δὲ καὶ Εὐρύπυλος κατὰ μηρὸν οἰστῶ·<sup>24</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Line 662 is omitted in the best mss.

table when it was full, but old Nestor would lift it easily. In this the woman, who was like the goddesses, mixed a potion for them with Pramnian wine, and on this she grated cheese of goat's milk with a brazen grater, and sprinkled white barley meal over it; and she urged them to drink when she had made ready the potion. Then when they had drunk, and sent from them parching thirst, they took delight in words, speaking to one another; and Patroclus stood at the door, a godlike man. At sight of him the old man sprang from his bright chair, and took him by the hand and led him in, and commanded that he be seated. But Patroclus from the opposite side refused, and spoke, saying: "I may not sit, old sir, nurtured by Zeus, nor will you persuade me. Respected and to be dreaded is he who sent me out to learn who it is that you bring home wounded. But even by myself I recognize and see Machaon, shepherd of men. And now I will go back again a messenger, to bring word to Achilles. Well do you know, old sir, nurtured by Zeus, of what sort he is, terrible man; he would be quick to blame even one in whom was no blame."

Then made answer the horseman, Nestor of Gerenia: "Why now does Achilles have such pity for the sons of the Achaeans, all those who have been struck with missiles? He does not know at all what grief has arisen throughout the camp; for the best men lie among the ships struck by arrows or wounded with spear-thrusts. Struck is the son of Tydeus, mighty Diomedes, wounded with spearthrust is Odysseus, famed for his spear, and Agamemnon, and struck, too, is Eurypylos with an arrow in the thigh, and

- τοῦτον δ' ἄλλον ἐγὼ νέον ἤγαγον ἐκ πολέμοιο  
 ἰὼ ἀπὸ νευρῆς βεβλημένον. αὐτὰρ Ἀχιλλεὺς  
 665 ἐσθλὸς ἐὼν Δαναῶν οὐ κήδεταί οὐδ' ἐλεαίρει.  
 ἦ μένει εἰς ὃ κε δὴ νῆες θοαὶ ἄγχι θαλάσσης  
 Ἀργείων ἀέκητι πυρὸς δηίοιο θέρωνται,  
 αὐτοὶ τε κτεινώμεθ' ἐπισχερώ; οὐ γὰρ ἐμὴ ἴς  
 ἔσθ' οἷη πάρος ἔσκεν ἐνὶ γναμπτοῖσι μέλεσσιν.  
 670 εἶθ' ὥς ἡβώοιμι βίη δέ μοι ἔμπεδος εἶη,  
 ὥς ὁπότε Ἥλείοισι καὶ ἡμῖν νεῖκος ἐτύχθη  
 ἀμφὶ βοηλασίῃ, ὅτ' ἐγὼ κτάνον Ἴτυμονῆα,  
 ἐσθλὸν Ὑπειροχίδην, ὃς ἐν Ἥλιδι ναιετάασκε,  
 ῥύσι' ἐλαυνόμενος· ὁ δ' ἀμύνων ἦσι βόεσσιν  
 675 ἔβλητ' ἐν πρώτοισιν ἐμῆς ἀπὸ χειρὸς ἄκοντι,  
 καδ' δ' ἔπεσεν, λαοὶ δὲ περίτρεσαν ἀγροιώται.  
 ληίδα δ' ἐκ πεδίου συνελάσσαμεν ἥλιθα πολλήν,  
 πεντήκοντα βοῶν ἀγέλας, τόσα πώεα οἰῶν,  
 τόσσα συῶν συβόσια, τόσ' αἰπόλια πλατέ' αἰγῶν,  
 680 ἵππους δὲ ξανθὰς ἑκατὸν καὶ πεντήκοντα,  
 πάσας θηλείας, πολλῇσι δὲ πῶλοι ὑπήσαν.  
 καὶ τὰ μὲν ἡλασάμεσθα Πύλον Νηλήιον εἴσω  
 ἐννύχιοι προτὶ ἄστυ· γεγῆθει δὲ φρένα Νηλεὺς,  
 οὐνεκά μοι τύχε πολλὰ νέφ' πόλεμόνδε κιόντι.  
 685 κήρυκες δὲ λίγαινον ἅμ' ἡοῖ φαινομένηφι  
 τοὺς ἵμεν οἷσι χρεῖος ὀφείλετ' ἐν Ἥλιδι δίη·  
 οἱ δὲ συναγρόμενοι Πυλίων ἡγήτορες ἄνδρες  
 δαίτρενον· πολέσιν γὰρ Ἐπειοὶ χρεῖος ὀφείλον,  
 ὥς ἡμεῖς παῦροι κεκακωμένοι ἐν Πύλῳ ἦμεν.  
 690 ἐλθὼν γάρ ῥ' ἐκάκωσε βίη Ἡρακληεῖη

this man also I just now led out from the war struck with an arrow from the string. Yet Achilles, noble though he is, cares not for the Danaans, nor pities them. Does he wait indeed until the swift ships near the sea, in spite of the Argives, blaze with consuming fire, and we ourselves are slain one after the other? For my strength is not such as it once was in my supple limbs. I wish that I were as young and my strength were as firm as when strife arose between the Eleans and our people about the stealing of cattle, that time I slew Itymoneus, the mighty son of Hypeirochus, a man who dwelt in Elis, when I was driving off what we had seized in reprisal; and he, while fighting for the cattle, was struck among the foremost by a spear from my hand; and he fell, and the country people about him fled in terror. And very great booty did we drive together out of the plain, fifty herds of cattle, as many flocks of sheep, as many droves of swine, as many roving herds of goats, and chestnut horses one hundred and fifty, all mares, and many of them had foals at the teat. These then we drove into Neleian Pylos by night into the town, and Neleus rejoiced at heart, since much booty had fallen to me when I went to war as a stripling. And heralds made loud proclamation at break of day that all men should come, any to whom a debt was owing in noble Elis; and they who were leaders of the Pyliaus gathered together and made division, for to many did the Epeians owe a debt, since we in Pylos were few and oppressed. For mighty Heracles had come and oppressed

- τῶν προτέρων ἐτέων, κατὰ δ' ἔκταθεν ὅσσοι ἄριστοι.  
 δῶδεκα γὰρ Νηλῆος ἀμύμονος νιέες ἦμεν·  
 τῶν οἶος λιπόμην, οἱ δ' ἄλλοι πάντες ὄλοντο·  
 ταῦθ' ὑπερηφανέοντες Ἐπειοὶ χαλκοχίτωνες,  
 695 ἡμέας ὑβρίζοντες, ἀτάσθαλα μηχανόωντο.  
 ἐκ δ' ὁ γέρων ἀγέλην τε βοῶν καὶ πῶν μέγ' οἰῶν  
 εἴλετο, κρινάμενος τριηκόσι' ἠδὲ νομῆας.  
 καὶ γὰρ τῷ χρεῖος μέγ' ὀφείλετ' ἐν Ἥλιδι δῖη,  
 τέσσαρες ἀθλοφόροι ἵπποι αὐτοῖσιν ὄχεσφιν,<sup>25</sup>  
 700 ἐλθόντες μετ' ἅεθλα· περὶ τρίποδος γὰρ ἔμελλον  
 θεύσεσθαι· τοὺς δ' αὖθι ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Αὐγείας  
 κάσχεθε, τὸν δ' ἐλατῆρ' ἀφίει ἀκαχήμενον ἵππων.  
 τῶν ὁ γέρων ἐπέων κεχολωμένος ἠδὲ καὶ ἔργων  
 ἐξέλετ' ἄσπετα πολλά· τὰ δ' ἄλλ' ἐς δῆμον ἔδωκε  
 705 δαιτρεύειν, μή τίς οἱ ἀτεμβόμενος κίοι ἴσης.<sup>26</sup>  
 ἡμεῖς μὲν τὰ ἕκαστα διείπομεν, ἀμφί τε ἄστυ  
 ἔρδομεν ἱρὰ θεοῖς· οἱ δὲ τρίτῳ ἡματι πάντες  
 ἦλθον ὁμῶς αὐτοί τε πολεῖς καὶ μώνυχες ἵπποι  
 πανσυνδίη· μετὰ δέ σφι Μολίονε θωρήσσοντο  
 710 παῖδ' ἔτ' ἐόντ', οὗ πω μάλα εἰδότε θούριδος ἀλκῆς.  
 ἔστι δέ τις Θυρῳέσσα πόλις, αἰπεία κολώνη,  
 τηλοῦ ἐπ' Ἀλφειῷ, νεάτη Πύλου ἡμαθόεντος·  
 τὴν ἀμφεστρατόωντο διαρραῖσαι μεμαῶτες.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε πᾶν πεδίον μετεκίαθον, ἅμμι δ' Ἀθήνη  
 715 ἄγγελος ἦλθε θεοῦσ' ἀπ' Ὀλύμπου θωρήσσεσθαι  
 ἔννυχος, οὐδ' ἀέκοντα Πύλον κάτα λαὸν ἄγειρεν,  
 ἀλλὰ μάλ' ἐστυμένους πολεμίζειν. οὐδέ με Νηλεὺς



us years before, and all our best had been slain. Twelve sons of incomparable Neleus were we, and of these I alone was left, and all the rest had perished; arrogant because of this, the bronze-clad Epeians in insult to us were devising reckless deeds. And out of the spoil old Neleus chose a herd of cattle and a great flock of sheep, choosing three hundred and their herdsman with them. For to him a great debt was owing in noble Elis, four prize-winning horses, with their chariot, which had gone to the games, for they were to race for a tripod; but Augeias, lord of men, kept them there, and sent back their driver, sorrowing for his horses. Because of these things, words and deeds too, was the old man angered, and chose for himself recompense past telling; and the rest he gave to the people to divide, so that so far as in him lay no man might go defrauded of an equal share. So we were disposing of all that there was, and round about the city were offering sacrifice to the gods; and on the third day the Epeians came all together, many men and single-hoofed horses, with all speed, and among them the two Moliones armed themselves, though they were as yet but striplings unskilled in furious valor. Now there is a city Thryoessa, a steep hill, far off on the Alpheius, the farthest border of sandy Pylos; about this they set their camp, eager to raze it utterly. But when they had coursed over the whole plain, to us came Athene, speeding down from Olympus by night with the message that we should arm ourselves for battle, and not at all unwilling was the army she gathered in Pylos, but very eager

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<sup>25</sup> Line 699 was suspected in antiquity.

<sup>26</sup> Line 705 (cf. *Odyssey* 9. 42) was rejected by Zenodotus and Aristarchus.

- εἶα θωρήσσεσθαι, ἀπέκρυψεν δέ μοι ἵππους·  
 οὐ γάρ πώ τί μ' ἔφη ἴδμεν πολεμήια ἔργα.  
 720 ἀλλὰ καὶ ὥς ἱππεῦσι μετέπρεπον ἡμετέροισι  
 καὶ πεζός περ ἐών, ἐπεὶ ὥς ἄγε νεῖκος Ἀθήνη.  
 ἔστι δέ τις ποταμὸς Μινυήιος εἰς ἅλα βάλλων  
 ἐγγύθεν Ἀρήνης, ὅθι μείναμεν Ἡῶ διαν  
 ἱππῆες Πυλίων, τὰ δ' ἐπέρρεον ἔθνεα πεζῶν.  
 725 ἔνθεν πανσυδῆη σὺν τεύχεσι θωρηχθέντες  
 ἔνδιοι ἰκόμεσθ' ἱερὸν ῥόον Ἀλφειοῖο.  
 ἔνθα Διὶ ῥέξαντες ὑπερμενεῖ ἱερὰ καλά,  
 ταῦρον δ' Ἀλφειῷ, ταῦρον δὲ Ποσειδάωνι,  
 αὐτὰρ Ἀθηναίῃ γλαυκώπιδι βοῦν ἀγελαίην,  
 730 δόρπον ἔπειθ' ἐλόμεσθα κατὰ στρατὸν ἐν τελέεσσι,  
 καὶ κατεκοιμήθημεν ἐν ἔντεσιν οἷσιν ἕκαστος  
 ἀμφὶ ῥοὰς ποταμοῖο. ἀτὰρ μεγάθυμοι Ἐπειοὶ  
 ἀμφίσταντο δὴ ἄστυ διαρραῖσαι<sup>27</sup> μεμαῶτες·  
 ἀλλὰ σφι προπάροιθε φάνη μέγα ἔργον Ἄρης·  
 735 εὖτε γὰρ ἥελιος φαέθων ὑπερέσχεθε γαίης,  
 συμφερόμεσθα μάχῃ, Δίί τ' εὐχόμενοι καὶ Ἀθήνη.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ Πυλίων καὶ Ἐπειῶν ἔπλετο νεῖκος,  
 πρῶτος ἐγὼν ἔλον ἄνδρα, κόμισσα δὲ μώνυχας  
 ἵππους,  
 Μούλιον αἰχμητὴν· γαμβρὸς δ' ἦν Αὐγείαιο,  
 740 πρεσβυτάτην δὲ θύγατρ' εἶχε ξανθὴν Ἀγαμήδην,  
 ἥ τόσα φάρμακα ἤδη ὅσα τρέφει εὐρεῖα χθών.  
 τὸν μὲν ἐγὼ προσιόντα βάλον χαλκῆρεϊ δουρί,  
 ἥριπε δ' ἐν κονίῃσιν· ἐγὼ δ' ἐς δίφρον ὀρούσας  
 στήν ῥα μετὰ προμάχοισιν. ἀτὰρ μεγάθυμοι Ἐπειοὶ

for war. Now Neleus would not allow me to arm myself, but hid away my horses, for he thought that as yet I knew nothing of deeds of war. But even so I was preeminent among our horsemen, on foot though I was, since so did Athene order the strife. Now there is a river Minyeïus that empties into the sea near Arene, where we waited for bright Dawn, we horsemen of the Pylians, and the throngs of foot soldiers came flowing up afterwards. From there with all speed, arrayed in our armor, we came at midday to the holy stream of Alpheius. There we sacrificed fair offerings to Zeus, supreme in might, and a bull to Alpheius, and a bull to Poseidon, but to flashing-eyed Athene a heifer of the herd; and then we took our meal throughout the army by companies, and lay down to sleep, each man in his battle gear, by the streams of the river. But the great-hearted Epeians were marshaled about the city, eager to raze it utterly; but before that could be there appeared to them a mighty deed of war; for when the bright sun stood above the earth, we made for each other in battle, praying to Zeus and Athene. But when the strife of the Pylians and Epeians began, I was first to slay my man, and to get his single-hoofed horses, the spearman Mulius; son by marriage was he of Augeias, and had as wife his eldest daughter, fair-haired Agamede, who knew all herbs that the wide earth nourishes. Him as he came against me I struck with my bronze-tipped spear, and he fell in the dust; but I leapt on his chariot and took my stand among the foremost fighters. But the great-hearted Epeians fled one here, one there,

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<sup>27</sup> διαρραῖσαι: διαπραθέειν.

- 745 ἔτρεσαν ἄλλυδις ἄλλος, ἐπεὶ ἴδον ἄνδρα πεσόντα  
 ἡγεμόν' ἱππήων, ὃς ἀριστεύεσκε μάχεσθαι.  
 αὐταρ ἐγὼν ἐπόρουσα κελαινῇ λαίλαπι ἴσος,  
 πεντήκοντα δ' ἔλον δίφρους, δύο δ' ἀμφὶς ἕκαστον  
 φῶτες ὁδὰξ ἔλον οὐδας ἐμῶ ὑπὸ δουρὶ δαμέντες.
- 750 καὶ νῦ κεν Ἀκτορίωνε Μολίονε παῖδ' ἀλάπαξα,  
 εἰ μὴ σφωε πατήρ εὐρὺ κρείων Ἴννοσίχθων  
 ἐκ πολέμου ἐσάωσε, καλύψας ἥερι πολλῇ.  
 ἔνθα Ζεὺς Πυλίοισι μέγα κράτος ἐγγυάλιξε·  
 τόφρα γὰρ οὖν ἐπόμεσθα διὰ σπιδέος πεδίοιο,
- 755 κτείνοντές τ' αὐτοὺς ἀνά τ' ἔντεα καλὰ λέγοντες,  
 ὄφρ' ἐπὶ Βουπρασίου πολυπύρου βήσαμεν ἵππους  
 πέτρης τ' Ὀλενίης, καὶ Ἀλησίου ἔνθα κολώνη  
 κέκληται· ὅθεν αὖτις ἀπέτραπε λαὸν Ἀθήνη.  
 ἔνθ' ἄνδρα κτείνας πύματον λίπον· αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιοὶ
- 760 ἄψ ἀπὸ Βουπρασίοιο Πύλονδ' ἔχον ὠκέας ἵππους,  
 πάντες δ' εὐχετόωντο θεῶν Διὶ Νέστορί τ' ἀνδρῶν.  
 Ὡς ἔον, εἴ ποτ' ἔον γε, μετ' ἀνδράσιν. αὐτὰρ Ἀχιλ-  
 λεὺς  
 οἶος τῆς ἀρετῆς ἀπονήσεται· ἦ τέ μιν οἶω  
 πολλὰ μετακλαύσεσθαι, ἐπεὶ κ' ἀπὸ λαὸς ὄληται.
- 765 ὦ πέπον, ἦ μὲν σοί γε Μεινοίτιος ὦδ' ἐπέτελλεν  
 ἥματι τῷ ὅτε σ' ἐκ Φθίης Ἀγαμέμνονι πέμπε.  
 νῶι δὲ ἔνδον ἐόντες, ἐγὼ καὶ δῖος Ὀδυσσεύς,<sup>28</sup>  
 πάντα μάλ' ἐν μεγάροις ἡκούομεν ὥς ἐπέτελλε.  
 Πηλῆος δ' ἰκόμεσθα δόμους ἐν ναιετάοντας
- 770 λαὸν ἀγείροντες κατ' Ἀχαΐδα πουλυβότειραν.  
 ἔνθα δ' ἔπειθ' ἥρωα Μεινοίτιον εὖρομεν ἔνδον

when they saw the man fallen, who was leader of the horsemen and preeminent in fight. But I sprang on them like a black tempest and fifty chariots I took, and about each one two warriors bit the ground, vanquished by my spear. And now I would have slain the two Moliones, sons of Actor, if their true father, the wide-ruling Shaker of Earth, had not saved them from war by shrouding them in thick mist. Then Zeus granted great might to the men of Pylos, for we kept following through the wide plain, slaying the men and gathering their fair armor, until we drove our horses to Buprasium, rich in wheat, and the rock of Olen and the place where is the hill called the hill of Alesium, from which place Athene again turned back the army. Then I slew the last man, and left him; but the Achaeans drove back their swift horses from Buprasium to Pylos, and all gave glory among the gods to Zeus, and to Nestor among men.

Such was I—if indeed I ever was—among warriors. But Achilles will have profit of his valor alone. I suspect, in fact, he will often lament later on when the army perishes. Ah, friend, surely Menoetius gave you this charge on the day when he sent you from Phthia to Agamemnon. And the two of us were in the house, I and noble Odysseus, and in the halls we heard all things, just as he charged you. For we had come to the well-built house of Peleus, gathering the army throughout the bounteous land of Achaia. There then we found the warrior Menoetius in the house and

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<sup>28</sup> Lines 767–785 were rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

- ἥδ' ἐ σέ, παρ δ' Ἀχιλῆα· γέρων δ' ἱππηλάτα Πηλεὺς  
 πίονα μηρία καῖε βοὸς Διὶ τερπικεραύνῳ  
 αὐλῆς ἐν χόρτῳ· ἔχε δὲ χρύσειον ἄλεισον,  
 775 σπένδων αἶθοπα οἶνον ἐπ' αἶθομένοις ἱεροῖσι.  
 σφῶι μὲν ἀμφὶ βοὸς ἔπετον κρέα, νῶι δ' ἔπειτα  
 στῆμεν ἐνὶ προθύροισι· ταφὼν δ' ἀνόρουσεν Ἀχιλ-  
 λεύς,  
 ἐς δ' ἄγε χειρὸς ἐλών, κατὰ δ' ἐδριάασθαι ἄνωγε,  
 ξεινιά τ' εὖ παρέθηκεν, ἃ τε ξείνοις θέμις ἐστίν.  
 780 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ τάρπημεν ἐδητύος ἥδ' ἐ ποτῆτος,  
 ἦρχον ἐγὼ μύθοιο, κελεύων ὕμῃ· ἅμ' ἔπεσθαι·  
 σφῶ δὲ μάλ' ἠθέλετον, τῷ δ' ἅμφω πόλλ' ἐπέτελλον.  
 Πηλεὺς μὲν ᾧ παιδὶ γέρων ἐπέτελλ' Ἀχιλῆι  
 αἰὲν ἀριστεύειν καὶ ὑπείροχον ἔμμεναι ἄλλων·  
 785 σοὶ δ' αὖθ' ᾧδ' ἐπέτελλε Μενοίτιος, Ἄκτορος υἱός·  
 ἔτεκνον ἐμόν, γενεῇ μὲν ὑπέρτερός ἐστιν Ἀχιλλεύς,  
 πρεσβύτερος δὲ σύ ἐσσι· βίῃ δ' ὃ γε πολλὸν ἀμείνων.  
 ἀλλ' εὐ οἱ φάσθαι πυκινὸν ἔπος ἥδ' ὑποθέσθαι  
 καὶ οἱ σημαίνειν· ὃ δὲ πείσεται εἰς ἀγαθόν περ·  
 790 ὥς ἐπέτελλ' ὃ γέρων, σὺ δὲ λήθου· ἀλλ' ἔτι καὶ νῦν  
 ταῦτ' εἵποις Ἀχιλῆι δαΐφρονι, αἳ τε πίθηται.  
 τίς δ' οἶδ' εἴ κέν οἱ σὺν δαίμονι θυμὸν ὀρίναις  
 παρειπών; ἀγαθὴ δὲ παραίφασίς ἐστιν ἐταίρου.  
 εἰ δέ τινα φρεσὶν ᾗσι θεοπροπίην ἀλεείνει<sup>29</sup>  
 795 καὶ τινά οἱ παρ Ζηνὸς ἐπέφραδε πότνια μήτηρ,  
 ἀλλὰ σέ περ προέτω, ἅμα δ' ἄλλος λαὸς ἐπέσθω  
 Μυρμιδόνων, αἳ κέν τι φόως Δαναοῖσι γένηαι·  
 καὶ τοι τεύχεα καλὰ δότω πόλεμόνδε φέρεσθαι,

you, and with you Achilles; and the old horseman Peleus was burning the fat thighs of a bull to Zeus who hurls the thunderbolt, in the enclosure of the court, and he held in his hand a golden cup, pouring out the ruddy wine over the blazing sacrifice. You two were busied about the flesh of the bull, and we stood in the doorway; and Achilles leapt up in amazement, and took us by the hand and led us in, and commanded that we be seated, and he set before us abundant hospitality, all that is the due of strangers. But when we had had our fill of food and drink, I was first to speak, and urged you to follow with us; and you were both very eager, and those two gave you many charges. Old Peleus charged his son Achilles always to be bravest and preeminent above all, but you did Menoetius, son of Actor, thus charge: 'My child, in birth is Achilles nobler than you, but you are the elder, though in might he is the better far. But speak to him well a word of wisdom and give him counsel, and direct him; and he will obey you to his profit.' Thus did the old man charge you, but you are forgetful. Yet even now you might speak in this way to battle-minded Achilles, in the hope that he may obey. Who knows but that with the aid of a god you might rouse his heart with your persuading? A good thing is the persuasion of a comrade. But if in his mind he is shunning some oracle, and his queenly mother has declared to him something from Zeus, yet let him send you out, and with you let the rest of the army of the Myrmidons follow, in the hope that you may prove a light of deliverance to the Danaans; and let him give you his fair armor to wear into the war, in the hope that the

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<sup>29</sup> Lines 794 f. were rejected by Zenodotus.

- αἶ κέ σε τῷ ἴσκοντες ἀπόσχωνται πολέμοιο  
 800 Τρῶες, ἀναπνεύσωσι δ' ἀρήιοι νῆες Ἀχαιῶν  
 τειρόμενοι· ὀλίγη δέ τ' ἀνάπνευσις πολέμοιο.  
 ῥεῖα δέ κ' ἀκμήτες κεκμηότας ἄνδρας αὐτῇ<sup>30</sup>  
 ὥσαισθε προτὶ ἄστν νεῶν ἄπο καὶ κλισιάων.”
- Ἦς φάτο, τῷ δ' ἄρα θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσιν ὄρινε,  
 805 βῆ δὲ θέειν παρὰ νῆας ἐπ' Αἰακίδην Ἀχιλῆα.  
 ἀλλ' ὅτε δὴ κατὰ νῆας Ὀδυσσῆος θείοιο  
 ἶξε θεῶν Πάτροκλος, ἵνα σφ' ἀγορή τε θέμις τε  
 ἦην, τῇ δὴ καὶ σφι θεῶν ἐτετεύχατο βωμοί,  
 ἔνθα οἱ Εὐρύπυλος βεβλημένος ἀντεβόλησε  
 810 διογενῆς Εὐαιμονίδης κατὰ μηρὸν οἰστῶ,  
 σκάζων ἐκ πολέμου. κατὰ δὲ νότιος ῥέεν ἰδρῶς  
 ὦμων καὶ κεφαλῆς, ἀπὸ δ' ἔλκεος ἀργαλείοιο  
 αἶμα μέλαν κελάρυνζε· νόος γε μὲν ἔμπεδος ἦεν.  
 τὸν δὲ ἰδὼν ᾧκτειρε Μενoitίου ἄλκιμος υἱός,  
 815 καὶ ῥ' ὀλοφυρόμενος ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “ἦ δειλοί, Δαναῶν ἡγήτορες ἠδὲ μέδοντες,  
 ὥς ἄρ' ἐμέλλετε τῇλε φίλων καὶ πατρίδος αἵης  
 ἄσσειν ἐν Τροίῃ ταχέας κύνας ἀργέτι δημῶ.  
 ἀλλ' ἄγε μοι τόδε εἰπέ, διοτρεφὲς Εὐρύπυλ' ἥρως,  
 820 ἦ ῥ' ἔτι που σχήσουσι πελώριον Ἑκτορ' Ἀχαιοί,  
 ἦ ἤδη φθίσονται ὑπ' αὐτοῦ δουρὶ δαμέντες;”
- Τὸν δ' αὖτ' Εὐρύπυλος βεβλημένος<sup>31</sup> ἀντίον ἠΰδα·  
 “οὐκέτι, διογενὲς Πατρόκλεες, ἄλκαρ Ἀχαιῶν  
 ἔσσεται, ἀλλ' ἐν νηυσὶ μελαίνησιν πεσέονται.  
 825 οἱ μὲν γὰρ δὴ πάντες, ὅσοι πάρος ἦσαν ἄριστοι,



Trojans may take you for him, and so hold off from war, and the warlike sons of the Achaeans may take breath, worn out as they are; for scant is the breathing space in war. And easily might you who are unwearied drive men that are wearied with battle back toward the city from the ships and the huts."

So he spoke, and roused the heart in the breast of Patroclus, and he went running along the line of the ships to Aeacus' grandson, Achilles. But when in his running Patroclus came to the ships of godlike Odysseus, where was their place of assembly and place of judgment, where also had been built their altars of the gods, there Eurypylus met him, the Zeus-born son of Euaemon, struck with an arrow in the thigh, limping out from the battle. And in streams down from his head and shoulders flowed the sweat, and from his gruesome wound the black blood was gushing, yet his mind was firm. At sight of him the valiant son of Menoetius had pity on him, and with wailing spoke to him winged words: "Ah you wretched men, leaders and lords of the Danaans, thus then were you destined, far from your friends and your native land, to glut the swift dogs in Troy with your white fat. But come, tell me this, Eurypylus, warrior nurtured by Zeus, will the Achaeans be able still to hold back huge Hector, or will they now perish, vanquished by his spear?"

Then the wounded Eurypylus said to him: "No longer, Zeus-born Patroclus, will there be any defense of the Achaeans, but they will fling themselves on to the black ships. For indeed all they who were best men before lie

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<sup>30</sup> Lines 802 f. (= 16. 44 f.) were rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>31</sup> βεβλημένος: πεπνυμένος.

ἐν νηυσὶν κέαται βεβλημένοι οὐτάμενοί τε  
 χερσὶν ὑπο Τρώων· τῶν δὲ σθένος ὄρνυται αἰέν.  
 ἀλλ' ἐμὲ μὲν σὺ σάωσον ἄγων ἐπὶ νῆα μέλαιναν,  
 μηροῦ δ' ἔκταμ' οἰστόν, ἀπ' αὐτοῦ δ' αἶμα κελαινὸν  
 830 νίζ' ὕδατι λιαρῶ, ἐπὶ δ' ἥπια φάρμακα πάσσε,  
 ἐσθλά, τά σε προτί φασιν Ἀχιλλῆος δεδιδάχθαι,  
 ὃν Χείρων ἐδίδαξε, δικαιοτάτος Κενταύρων.  
 ἱητροὶ μὲν γὰρ Ποδαλείριος ἠδὲ Μαχάων,  
 τὸν μὲν ἐνὶ κλισίῃσιν οἴομαι ἔλκος ἔχοντα,  
 835 χρηρίζοντα καὶ αὐτὸν ἀμύμονος ἱητῆρος,  
 κεῖσθαι· ὁ δ' ἐν πεδίῳ Τρώων μένει ὄξυν Ἄρρη.”

Τὸν δ' αὖτε προσέειπε Μενoitίου ἄλκιμος υἱός·  
 “πῶς τ' ἄρ' εἰσι τάδε ἔργα; τί ρέξομεν, Εὐρύπυλ' ἥρως;  
 ἔρχομαι, ὄφρ' Ἀχιλῆϊ δαΐφρονι μῦθον ἐνίσπω,  
 840 ὃν Νέστωρ ἐπέτελλε Γερήνιος, οὔρος Ἀχαιῶν·  
 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὧς περ σείῳ μεθήσω τειρομένοιο.”

Ἦ, καὶ ὑπὸ στέρνοιο λαβὼν ἄγε ποιμένα λαῶν  
 ἐς κλισίην· θεράπων δὲ ἰδὼν ὑπέχευε βοείας.  
 ἔνθα μιν ἐκτανύσας ἐκ μηροῦ τάμνε μαχαίρῃ  
 845 ὄξυν βέλος περιπευκές, ἀπ' αὐτοῦ δ' αἶμα κελαινὸν  
 νίζ' ὕδατι λιαρῶ, ἐπὶ δὲ ρίζαν βάλε πικρὴν  
 χερσὶ διατρίψας, ὀδυνήφατον, ἣ οἱ ἀπάσας  
 ἔσχ' ὀδύνας· τὸ μὲν ἔλκος ἐτέρσετο, παύσατο δ' αἶμα.

among the ships struck by arrows or wounded with spear-thrusts at the hands of the Trojans, whose strength constantly increases. But save me, and lead me to my black ship, and cut the arrow from my thigh, and wash the black blood from it with warm water, and sprinkle on it soothing herbs of healing power, which men say you have learned from Achilles, whom Cheiron taught, the most just of the Centaurs. For the healers, Podaleirius and Machaon, the one I believe lies wounded among the huts, having need himself of an incomparable healer, and the other in the plain awaits the sharp battle of the Trojans."

Then the valiant son of Menoetius said to him: "How will these things be? What shall we do, warrior Eurypylus? I am on my way to declare to battle-minded Achilles the words that Nestor of Gerenia, guardian of the Achaeans, charged me with. But not even so will I neglect you in your suffering."

He spoke and grasping the shepherd of men below the chest led him to his hut, and his attendant when he saw them spread on the ground hides of oxen. There Patroclus made him lie stretched out, and with a knife cut from his thigh the sharp-piercing arrow, and from the wound washed the black blood with warm water, and on it cast a bitter root, when he had rubbed it between his hands, a root that slays pain, which stayed all his pains; and the wound began to dry, and the blood ceased to flow.

# Μ

- Ὡς ὁ μὲν ἐν κλισίῃσι Μεινοιτίου ἄλκιμος υἱὸς  
 ἰᾶτ' Εὐρύπυλον βεβλημένον· οἱ δ' ἐμάχοντο  
 Ἀργεῖοι καὶ Τρῶες ὁμιλαδόν· οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔμελλε  
 τάφρος ἔτι σχήσειν Δαναῶν καὶ τεῖχος ὑπερθεῖν  
 5 εὐρύ, τὸ ποιήσαντο νεῶν ὑπερ, ἀμφὶ δὲ τάφρον  
 ἤλασαν, οὐδὲ θεοῖσι δόσαν κλειτὰς ἐκατόμβας,  
 ὄφρα σφιν νῆας τε θοὰς καὶ ληίδα πολλὴν  
 ἐντὸς ἔχον ῥύοιτο. θεῶν δ' ἀέκητι τέτυκτο  
 ἀθανάτων· τὸ καὶ οὗ τι πολὺν χρόνον ἔμπεδον ἦεν.  
 10 ὄφρα μὲν Ἑκτωρ ζῶς ἔην καὶ μῆνι' Ἀχιλλεὺς  
 καὶ Πριάμοιο ἄνακτος ἀπόρθητος πόλις ἔπλεν,  
 τόφρα δὲ καὶ μέγα τεῖχος Ἀχαιῶν ἔμπεδον ἦεν.  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κατὰ μὲν Τρώων θάνον ὅσσοι ἄριστοι,  
 πολλοὶ δ' Ἀργείων οἱ μὲν δάμεν, οἱ δὲ λίποντο,  
 15 πέρθετο δὲ Πριάμοιο πόλις δεκάτῳ ἐνιαυτῷ,  
 Ἀργεῖοι δ' ἐν νηυσὶ φίλην ἐς πατρίδ' ἔβησαν,  
 δὴ τότε μητιώωντο Ποσειδάων καὶ Ἀπόλλων  
 τεῖχος ἀμαλδῦναι, ποταμῶν μένος εἰσαγαγόντες,  
 ὅσσοι ἀπ' Ἰδαίων ὀρέων ἄλαδε προρέουσι,  
 20 Ῥῆσός θ' Ἑπτάπορος τε Κάρησός τε Ῥοδῖος τε  
 Γρήνικός τε καὶ Αἴσηπος διὸς τε Σκάμανδρος

## BOOK 12

So then among the huts the valiant son of Menoetius was tending the wounded Eurypylus, but the others, Argives and Trojans, fought on in throngs, nor were the trench of the Danaans and their wide wall above it long to protect them, the wall that they had built as a defense for their ships and had drawn a trench around—but they gave not glorious hecatombs to the gods—so that it might hold inside and keep safe their swift ships and great booty. But against the will of the immortal gods was it built; so for no long time was it firm. As long as Hector still lived, and Achilles cherished his wrath, and the city of king Priam was unsacked, so long the great wall of the Achaeans likewise remained firm. But when all the best of the Trojans had died and many of the Argives—some were slain and some were left—and the city of Priam was sacked in the tenth year, and the Argives had gone back in their ships to their dear native land, then it was that Poseidon and Apollo took counsel to sweep away the wall, bringing against it the force of all the rivers that flow out from the mountains of Ida to the sea—Rhesus and Heptaporus and Caresus and Rhodius, and Granicus and Aesepus, and noble Scaman-

- καὶ Σιμόεις, ὅθι πολλὰ βοάγρια καὶ τρυφάλειαί  
 κάππεσον ἐν κονίησι καὶ ἡμιθέων γένος ἀνδρῶν·  
 τῶν πάντων ὁμόσε στόματ' ἔτραπε Φοῖβος Ἀπόλλων,  
 25 ἐννήμαρ δ' ἐς τείχος ἵει ρόον· ὕε δ' ἄρα Ζεὺς  
 συνεχές, ὅφρα κε θᾶσσον ἀλίπλοα τείχεα θείη.  
 αὐτὸς δ' Ἐννοσίγαιος ἔχων χεῖρεσσι τρίαῖναν  
 ἡγείτ', ἐκ δ' ἄρα πάντα θεμείλια κύμασι πέμπε  
 φιτρῶν καὶ λάων, τὰ θέσαν μογέοντες Ἀχαιοί,  
 30 λεία δ' ἐποίησεν παρ' ἀγάρροον Ἑλλήσποντον,  
 αὐτὶς δ' ἡϊόνα μεγάλην ψαμάθοισι κάλυψε,  
 τείχος ἀμαλδύνας· ποταμοὺς δ' ἔτρεψε νέεσθαι  
 κὰρ ρόον, ἧ περ πρόσθεν ἵεν καλλίρροον ὕδωρ.  
 Ὡς ἄρ' ἔμελλον ὅπισθε Ποσειδάων καὶ Ἀπόλλων  
 35 θησέμεναι· τότε δ' ἀμφὶ μάχῃ ἐνοπή τε δεδήει  
 τείχος ἐύδμητον, κανάχιζε δὲ δούρατα πύργων  
 βαλλόμεν'. Ἀργεῖοι δὲ Διὸς μᾶστιγι δαμέντες  
 νηυσὶν ἔπι γλαφυρῇσιν ἐελμένοι ἰσχανόωντο,  
 Ἔκτορα δειδιότες, κρατερὸν μήστωρα φόβοιο·  
 40 αὐτὰρ ὃ γ' ὥς τὸ πρόσθεν ἐμάρνατο ἴσος ἀέλλη.  
 ὥς δ' ὅτ' ἂν ἔν τε κύνεσσι καὶ ἀνδράσι θηρευτῇσι  
 κάπριος ἢ ἐλέων στρέφεται σθένει βλεμεαίνων·  
 οἱ δέ τε πυργηδὸν σφέας αὐτοὺς ἀρτύναντες  
 ἀντίοι ἵστανται καὶ ἀκοντίζουσι θαμειᾶς  
 45 αἰχμᾶς ἐκ χειρῶν· τοῦ δ' οὐ ποτε κυδάλιμον κῆρ  
 ταρβεῖ οὐδὲ φοβεῖται, ἀγνηρορὴ δέ μιν ἔκτα·  
 ταρφέα τε στρέφεται στίχας ἀνδρῶν πειρητίζων·  
 ὅππῃ τ' ἰθύσῃ, τῇ τ' εἵκουσι στίχες ἀνδρῶν·  
 ὥς Ἐκτωρ ἂν ὅμιλον ἰὼν ἐλίσσεθ' ἐταίρους

der, and Simoïs, by the banks of which many shields of bull's hide and many helmets fell in the dust, and the race of men half-divine—of all these did Phoebus Apollo turn the mouths together, and for nine days he drove their flood against the wall; and Zeus rained constantly, so that the more quickly he might overwhelm the wall in the salt sea. And the Shaker of Earth, holding his trident in his hands, was himself the leader, and swept out on the waves all the foundations of beams and stones that the Achaeans had toiled to set up, and made all smooth along the strong stream of the Hellespont, and again covered the great beach with sand when he had swept away the wall; and the rivers he turned back to flow in the channel where they had earlier poured their fair-flowing streams.

So were Poseidon and Apollo to do later; but then war and the din of war blazed about the well-built wall, and the beams of the towers rang as they were struck; and the Argives, subdued by the lash of Zeus, were penned in by their hollow ships, and held in check in terror of Hector, the mighty deviser of rout, while he, as before, fought like a whirlwind. And as when, among hounds and huntsmen, a wild boar or a lion wheels about, exulting in his strength, and the men array themselves in ranks like a wall, and stand against him, and hurl javelins thick and fast from their hands; yet his noble heart neither fears nor quails, though his valor kills him; and often he wheels about and makes trial of the ranks of men, and wherever he charges, there the ranks of men give way: even so Hector went through the throng and begged his comrades, urging them

- 50 τάφρον ἐποτρύνων διαβαινέμεν· οὐδέ οἱ ἵπποι  
τόλμων ὠκύποδες, μάλα δὲ χρεμέτιζον ἐπ' ἄκρῳ  
χείλει ἐφεσταότες· ἀπὸ γὰρ δειδίσσεται τάφρος  
εὐρεῖ, οὐτ' ἄρ' ὑπερθορέειν σχεδὸν οὔτε περῆσαι  
ῥηιδίῃ· κρημνοὶ γὰρ ἐπηρεφέςες περὶ πᾶσαν
- 55 ἕστασαν ἀμφοτέρωθεν, ὑπερθεν δὲ σκολόπεσσιν  
ὀξέσιν ἡρήρει, τοὺς ἵστασαν νῆες Ἀχαιῶν  
πυκνοὺς καὶ μεγάλους, δηίων ἀνδρῶν ἀλεωρήν.  
ἐνθ' οὐ κεν ῥέα ἵππος εὐτροχον<sup>1</sup> ἄρμα τιταίνων  
ἐσβαίῃ, πεζοὶ δὲ μενοίνεον εἰ τελέουσι.
- 60 δὴ τότε Πουλυδάμας θρασὺν Ἑκτορα εἶπε παραστάς·  
“Ἑκτορ τ' ἡδ' ἄλλοι Τρώων ἀγοὶ ἡδ' ἐπικούρων,  
ἀφραδέως διὰ τάφρον ἐλαύνομεν ὠκέας ἵππους·  
ἡ δὲ μάλ' ἀργαλήη περάαν· σκόλοπες γὰρ ἐν αὐτῇ  
ὀξέες ἐστάσιν, ποτὶ δ' αὐτοὺς τείχος Ἀχαιῶν.
- 65 ἐνθ' οὐ πως ἔστιν καταβήμεναι οὐδὲ μάχεσθαι  
ἱππεῦσι· στεῖνος γάρ, ὅθι τρώσεσθαι οἴω.  
εἰ μὲν γὰρ τοὺς πάγχυ κακὰ φρονέων ἀλαπάξει  
Ζεὺς ὑψιβρεμέτης, Τρώεσσι δὲ ἴετ'<sup>2</sup> ἀρήγειν,  
ἦ τ' ἂν ἐγὼ γ' ἐθέλοιμι καὶ αὐτίκα τοῦτο γενέσθαι,
- 70 νωνύμνους ἀπολέσθαι ἀπ' Ἀργεος ἐνθάδ' Ἀχαιούς·  
εἰ δέ χ' ὑποστρέψωσι, παλίωξις δὲ γένηται  
ἐκ νηῶν καὶ τάφρῳ ἐνιπλήξωμεν ὀρυκτῇ,  
οὐκέτ' ἔπειτ' οἴω οὐδ' ἄγγελον ἀπονέεσθαι  
ἄψορρον προτὶ ἄστνυ ἐλιχθέντων ὑπ' Ἀχαιῶν.
- 75 ἀλλ' ἄγεθ', ὥς ἂν ἐγὼ εἶπω, πειθώμεθα πάντες·  
ἵππους μὲν θεράποντες ἐρυκόντων ἐπὶ τάφρῳ,  
αὐτοὶ δὲ πρυλέες σὺν τεύχεσι θωρηχθέντες



to cross the trench. But his swift-footed horses dared not, but loudly they neighed, standing on the sheer brink, for the trench frightened them, so wide was it, easy neither to overleap at a bound nor to drive across; for overhanging banks stood all about its circuit on both sides, and at the top it was set with sharp stakes that the sons of the Achaeans had planted, close together and great, a defense against the foe. Not easily would a horse, straining at the wheeled chariot, get inside it; but the foot soldiers were eager to achieve it. Then it was that Polydamas came up to bold Hector, and spoke, saying: "Hector, and you other leaders of the Trojans and allies, it is folly to seek to drive our swift horses across the trench; very hard is it to cross, for sharp stakes are set in it, and close by them is the wall of the Achaeans. There it is not at all possible for charioteers to descend and fight; for the space is narrow, and then I think we shall suffer hurt. For if Zeus, who thunders on high, is utterly to crush our foe in his wrath, and is minded to give aid to the Trojans, then of course I too would be eager that this might immediately come to pass, that the Achaeans should perish here far from Argos, and have no name; but if they turn on us and we are driven back from the ships and become entangled in the trench they have dug, then I think that not one man of us will return back to the city from before the Achaeans when they rally, even to bear the tidings. But come, just as I shall say, let us all obey. As for the horses, let the attendants hold them back by the trench, but ourselves on foot, arrayed in our armor, let us

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<sup>1</sup> *εύτροχον: εύξοον.*

<sup>2</sup> *ἴετ' Aristarchus: βούλετ'.*

Ἑκτορι πάντες ἐπώμεθ' ἀολλέες· αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιοὶ  
οὐ μενέουσ', εἰ δὴ σφιν ὀλέθρου πείρατ' ἐφήπται."

80 Ὡς φάτο Πουλυδάμας, ἅδε δ' Ἑκτορι μῦθος  
ἀπήμων,

αὐτίκα δ' ἐξ ὀχέων σὺν τεύχεσιν ἄλτο χαμαῖζε.  
οὐδὲ μὲν ἄλλοι Τρῶες ἐφ' ἵππων ἠγερέθοντο,  
ἀλλ' ἀπὸ πάντες ὄρουσαν, ἐπεὶ ἴδον Ἑκτορα δῖον.  
ἠνιόχῳ μὲν ἔπειτα ἐὼ ἐπέτελλεν ἕκαστος

85 ἵππους εὖ κατὰ κόσμον ἐρυκέμεν αὖθ' ἐπὶ τάφρῳ·  
οἱ δὲ διαστάντες, σφέας αὐτοὺς ἀρτύναντες,  
πένταχα κοσμηθέντες ἅμ' ἠγεμόνεσσιν ἔποντο.

Οἱ μὲν ἅμ' Ἑκτορ' ἴσαν καὶ ἀμύμονι Πουλυ-  
δάμαντι,

οἱ πλείστοι καὶ ἄριστοι ἔσαν, μέμασαν δὲ μάλιστα  
90 τείχος ῥήξάμενοι κοίλῃς ἐπὶ νηυσὶ μάχεσθαι·  
καὶ σφιν Κεβριόνης τρίτος εἶπετο· παρ δ' ἄρ' ὄχεσφιν  
ἄλλον Κεβριόναο χερείονα κάλλιπεν Ἑκτωρ.

τῶν δ' ἐτέρων Πάρις ἦρχε καὶ Ἀλκάθοος καὶ Ἀγήνωρ,  
τῶν δὲ τρίτων Ἑλένος καὶ Δηίφοβος θεοειδής,

95 νῆε δὺν Πριάμοιο· τρίτος δ' ἦν Ἄσιος ἥρως,  
Ἄσιος Ὑρτακίδης, ὃν Ἀρίσβηθεν φέρον ἵπποι  
αἰθωνες μεγάλοι, ποταμοῦ ἅπο Σελλήεντος.

τῶν δὲ τετάρτων ἦρχεν εὖς πάις Ἀγχίσαιο,  
Αἰνείας, ἅμα τῷ γε δὺν Ἀντήνορος νῆε,  
100 Ἀρχέλοχός τ' Ἀκάμας τε, μάχης εὖ εἰδότε πάσης.  
Σαρπηδὼν δ' ἠγῆσατ' ἀγακλειτῶν ἐπικούρων,  
πρὸς δ' ἔλετο Γλαῦκον καὶ ἀρήιον Ἀστεροπαῖον·  
οἱ γάρ οἱ εἴσαντο διακριδὸν εἶναι ἄριστοι

follow all in one throng after Hector; and the Achaeans will not withstand us, if the coils of destruction have been fastened on them."

So spoke Polydamas, and his prudent words were well pleasing to Hector, and immediately he leapt in his armor from his chariot to the ground. Nor did the other Trojans remain assembled on their chariots, but they all leapt down when they saw noble Hector on foot. Then on his own charioteer each man laid the charge to hold back his horses all in good order there at the trench, but the men divided and arranged themselves, and marshaled in five companies they followed after the leaders.

Some went with Hector and incomparable Polydamas, they who were most in number and best, and were most eager to break through the wall and fight by the hollow ships, and with them followed Cebriones as the third; for by his chariot had Hector left another man, lesser than Cebriones. The second company was led by Paris and Alcathous and Agenor, and the third by Helenus and god-like Deïphobus, two sons of Priam; and a third was with them, the warrior Asius—Asius son of Hyrtacus, whom his horses tawny and great had brought from Arisbe, from the river Selleïs. And of the fourth company the mighty son of Anchises was leader, Aeneas, and with him were Antenor's two sons, Archelochus and Acamas, well skilled in all manner of fighting. And Sarpedon led the glorious allies, and he chose as his comrades Glaucus and warlike Asteropaeus, for these seemed to him to be the best be-

- τῶν ἄλλων μετά γ' αὐτόν· ὁ δ' ἔπρεπε καὶ διὰ πάντων.  
 105 οἱ δ' ἐπεὶ ἀλλήλους ἄραρον τυκτῇσι βόεσσι,  
 βάν ῥ' ἰθὺς Δαναῶν λελιημένοι, οὐδ' ἔτ' ἔφαντο  
 σχήσεσθ', ἀλλ' ἐν νηυσὶ μελαίνησιν πεσέεσθαι.  
 Ἔνθ' ἄλλοι Τρῶες τηλεκλειτοὶ τ' ἐπίκουροι  
 βουλῇ Πουλυνδάμαντος ἀμωμήτοιο πίθοντο·  
 110 ἀλλ' οὐχ Ἑρτακίδης ἔθελ' Ἄσιος, ὄρχαμος ἀνδρῶν,  
 αὐθι λιπεῖν ἵππους τε καὶ ἡνίοχον θεράποντα,  
 ἀλλὰ σὺν αὐτοῖσιν πέλασεν νήεσσι θοῇσι,  
 νήπιος, οὐδ' ἄρ' ἔμελλε κακὰς ὑπὸ κῆρας ἀλύξας,  
 ἵπποισιν καὶ ὄχεσφιν ἀγαλλόμενος παρὰ νηῶν  
 115 ἂψ ἀπονοστήσειν προτὶ Ἴλιον ἡνεμόεσσαν.  
 πρόσθεν γάρ μιν μοῖρα δυσώνυμος ἀμφεκάλυψεν  
 ἔγχεϊ Ἰδομενῆος, ἀγανοῦ Δευκαλίδας.  
 εἶσατο γὰρ νηῶν ἐπ' ἀριστερά, τῇ περ Ἀχαιοὶ  
 ἐκ πεδίου νίσοντο σὺν ἵπποισιν καὶ ὄχεσφι·  
 120 τῇ ῥ' ἵππους τε καὶ ἄρμα διήλασεν, οὐδὲ πύλῃσιν  
 εὗρ' ἐπικεκλιμένας σανίδας καὶ μακρὸν ὄχημα,  
 ἀλλ' ἀναπεπταμένας ἔχον ἀνέρες, εἴ τιν' ἐταίρων  
 ἐκ πολέμου φεύγοντα σαώσειαν μετὰ νῆας.  
 τῇ ῥ' ἰθὺς φρονέων ἵππους ἔχε, τοὶ δ' ἅμ' ἔποντο  
 125 ὀξέα κεκλήγοντες· ἔφαντο γὰρ οὐκέτ' Ἀχαιοὺς  
 σχήσεσθ', ἀλλ' ἐν νηυσὶ μελαίνησιν πεσέεσθαι·  
 νήπιοι, ἐν δὲ πύλῃσι δὺ' ἀνέρε εὗρον ἀρίστῳ,<sup>3</sup>  
 νιέ' ὑπερθύμῳ Λαπιθάων αἰχμητῶν,  
 τὸν μὲν Πειριθόου νῆα, κρατερὸν Πολυποίτην,  
 130 τὸν δὲ Λεοντήα, βροτολοιγῶ ἴσον Ἄρηι.

yond all others after himself, but he was preeminent even among all. These then when they had fenced one another with their well-made shields of bull's hide, made straight for the Danaans eagerly, nor did they think that they would be held back any longer, but would fall on the black ships.

Then the rest of the Trojans and their far-famed allies obeyed the counsel of incomparable Polydamas, but Asius, Hyrtacus' son, leader of men, was not minded to leave there his horses and his attendant the charioteer, but chariot and all he came up to the swift ships, fool that he was, for he was not to escape the evil fates and, glorying in horses and chariot, return back again to windy Ilios from the ships. For, before that could be, fate, of evil name, enfolded him by the spear of Idomeneus, the lordly son of Deucalion. For he made for the left wing of the ships, where the Achaeans were used to return from the plain with horses and chariots: there he drove on his horses and chariot, and at the gate he did not find the doors shut nor the long bar drawn, but men were holding them flung wide open in the hope that they might save any of their comrades fleeing out of the battle toward the ships. There he drove his horses in unswerving course, and after him followed his men with shrill cries, for they thought that they would no more be held back by the Achaeans, but would fall on the black ships—fools that they were; for at the gate they found two warriors most excellent, high-hearted sons of Lapith spearmen, the one mighty Polypoetes, son of Peirithous, and the other Leonteus, peer of man-

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<sup>3</sup> The dual in this and the following line is given by Zenodotus and Aristophanes; the MSS have the plural.

- τὼ μὲν ἄρα προπάρειθε πυλάων ὑψηλάων  
 ἔστασαν ὥς ὅτε τε δρύες οὔρεσιν ὑψικάρῃνοι,  
 αἷ τ' ἄνεμον μίμνουσι καὶ ὑέτον ἥματα πάντα,  
 ῥίζῃσιν μεγάλῃσι διηνεκέεσσ' ἀραρυῖαι·  
 135 ὥς ἄρα τὼ χεῖρεσσι πεποιθότες ἡδὲ βίῃφι  
 μίμνον ἐπερχόμενον μέγαν Ἄσιον οὐδ' ἐφέβοντο.  
 οἱ δ' ἰθὺς πρὸς τείχος ἐύδητον βόας αὔας  
 ὑψόσ' ἀνασχόμενοι ἔκινον μέγλω ἀλαλητῷ  
 Ἄσιον ἀμφὶ ἄνακτα καὶ Ἰαμενὸν καὶ Ὀρέστην  
 140 Ἀσιάδην τ' Ἀδάμαντα Θόωνά τε Οἰνόμαόν τε.  
 οἱ δ' ἦ τοι ἦος μὲν ἐυκνήμιδας Ἀχαιοὺς  
 ὄρνυον ἔνδον ἑόντες ἀμύνεσθαι περὶ νηῶν·  
 αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ δὴ τείχος ἐπεσσυμένους ἐνόησαν  
 Τρῶας, ἀτὰρ Δαναῶν γένετο ἰαχή τε φόβος τε,  
 145 ἐκ δὲ τὼ αἰξάντε πυλάων πρόσθε μαχέσθην,  
 ἀγροτέροισι σύεσσιν ἐοικότε, τῷ τ' ἐν ὄρεσσι  
 ἀνδρῶν ἡδὲ κυνῶν δέχεται κολοσυρτὸν ἰόντα,  
 δοχμῷ τ' αἰσσοῦντε περὶ σφίσιν ἄγνυτον ὕλην  
 πρυμνὴν ἐκτάμνοντες, ὑπαὶ δέ τε κόμπος ὀδόντων  
 150 γίγνεται, εἰς ὃ κέ τις τε βαλὼν ἐκ θυμὸν ἔλῃται·  
 ὥς τῶν κόμπει χαλκὸς ἐπὶ στήθεσσι φαεινὸς  
 ἄντην βαλλομένων· μάλα γὰρ κρατερῶς ἐμάχοντο,  
 λαοῖσιν καθύπερθε πεποιθότες ἡδὲ βίῃφιν.  
 οἱ δ' ἄρα χερμαδίοισιν ἐυδμήτων ἀπὸ πύργων  
 155 βάλλον, ἀμυνόμενοι σφῶν τ' αὐτῶν καὶ κλισιάων  
 νηῶν τ' ὠκυπόρων. νιφάδες δ' ὥς πίπτον ἔραζε,  
 ἅς τ' ἄνεμος ζαῆς, νέφεα σκιοέοντα δονήσας,  
 ταρφειὰς κατέχευεν ἐπὶ χθονὶ πουλυβοτείρῃ·

destroying Ares. These two in front of the high gate stood firm like oaks of lofty crest on the mountains that ever stand up to the wind and rain day by day, firm fixed with roots great and long; so these two, trusting in the might of their arms, stood up to great Asius as he came on, and did not flee. But they came straight against the well-built wall, raising high their shields of dry bull's hide with loud shouting, round about king Asius, and Iamenus, and Orestes, and Adamas, son of Asius, and Thoön and Oenomaus. And the Lapiths for a time from inside the wall had been rousing the well-greaved Achaeans to fight in defense of the ships; but when they saw the Trojans rushing on the wall while the Danaans with loud cries turned in flight, out rushed the two of them and fought in front of the gate like a pair of wild boars that among the mountains await the tumultuous throng of men and dogs that comes against them, and charging from either side they crush the trees about them, cutting them at the root, and there arises the sound of the clash of tusks till someone strikes them and takes away their life: so clashed the bright bronze about the chests of the two as they were struck with faces turned toward the foe; for very mightily did they fight, trusting in the men on the walls above and in their own might. For the men above them kept hurling stones from the well-built towers in defence of their own lives and of the huts and of the swift-faring ships. And like snowflakes the stones fell to the earth, like flakes that a blustering wind, as it drives the shadowy clouds, pours thick and fast on the bounte-

- ὥς τῶν ἐκ χειρῶν βέλεα ῥέον, ἡμὲν Ἀχαιῶν  
 160 ἥδ' ἐκ Τρώων· κόρυθες δ' ἄμφ' αὖτον αὐτεὺν  
 βαλλόμεναι<sup>4</sup> μυλάκεσσι καὶ ἀσπίδες ὀμφαλόεσσαι.  
 δὴ ῥα τότε ὤμωξέν τε καὶ ὦ πεπλήγετο μηρὸν  
 Ἄσσιος Ἐρτακίδης, καὶ ἀλαστήσας ἔπος ηὔδα·  
 “Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἦ ῥά νυ καὶ σὺ φιλοψευδὴς ἐτέτυξο  
 165 πάγχυ μάλ'· οὐ γὰρ ἐγὼ γ' ἐφάμην ἥρως Ἀχαιοὺς  
 σχήσειν ἡμέτερόν γε μένος καὶ χεῖρας ἀάπτους.  
 οἱ δ', ὥς τε σφήκες μέσον αἰόλοι ἢ μέλισσαι  
 οἰκία ποιήσονται ὁδῷ ἐπὶ παιπαλοέσση,  
 οὐδ' ἀπολείπουσιν κοῖλον δόμον, ἀλλὰ μένοντες  
 170 ἄνδρας θηρητῆρας ἀμύνονται περὶ τέκνων,  
 ὥς οἳ γ' οὐκ ἐθέλουσι πυλάων καὶ δύ' ἐόντε  
 χάσσασθαι πρίν γ' ἢ κατακτάμεν ἢ ἀλῶναι.”  
 ὣς ἔφατ', οὐδὲ Διὸς πεῖθε φρένα ταῦτ' ἀγορεύων·  
 Ἔκτορι γάρ οἱ θυμὸς ἐβούλετο κῦδος ὀρέξαι.  
 175 Ἄλλοι δ' ἄμφ' ἄλλησι μάχην ἐμάχοντο πύλῃσιν.<sup>5</sup>  
 ἀργαλέον δέ με ταῦτα θεὸν ὥς πάντ' ἀγορεῦσαι·  
 πάντῃ γὰρ περὶ τείχος ὀρώρει θεσπιδαῆς πῦρ  
 λαῖνον· Ἀργεῖοι δὲ καὶ ἀχνύμενοί περ ἀνάγκη  
 νηῶν ἡμύνοντο· θεοὶ δ' ἀκαχῆατο θυμὸν  
 180 πάντες, ὅσοι Δαναοῖσι μάχης ἐπιτάρροθοι ἦσαν.  
 σὺν δ' ἔβαλον Λαπίθαι πόλεμον καὶ δηιοτῆτα.  
 Ἐνθ' αὖ Πειριθόου υἱός, κρατερὸς Πολυποίτης,  
 δουρὶ βάλεν Δάμασον κυνέης διὰ χαλκοπαρήν·  
 οὐδ' ἄρα χαλκείῃ κόρυς ἔσχεθεν, ἀλλὰ διαπρὸ

<sup>4</sup> βαλλόμεναι Zenodotus: βαλλομένων Aristarchus.



ous earth; so flowed the missiles from the hands of these, Achaeans and Trojans alike; and helmets rang harshly and bossed shields as they were struck with great stones. Then it was that Asius, son of Hyrtacus, uttered a groan, and struck both his thighs, and in great indignation he spoke, saying: "Father Zeus, it appears that you, too, then are utterly a lover of lies, for I did not think that the Achaean warriors would hold back our force and our invincible hands. But they, like wasps of nimble waist or bees that have made their nest in a rugged path and leave not their hollow home, but remain, and in defence of their young ward off hunters, so these men, though they are but two, are not minded to give ground from the gate till they either slay or are slain."

So he spoke, but with these words he did not move the mind of Zeus, for it was to Hector that Zeus willed in his heart to give glory.

But others were fighting in battle about the other gates, and hard would it be for me, as though I were a god, to tell the tale of all these things, for everywhere about the wall of stone had arisen the wondrous-blazing fire; for the Argives, though in great distress, were forced to defend their ships; and the gods were distraught at heart, all those who were helpers of the Danaans in battle. And the Lapiths clashed together in war and combat.

Then again Peirithous' son, mighty Polypoetes, cast with his spear and struck Damasus through the helmet with cheekpieces of bronze; and the bronze helmet did

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<sup>5</sup> Lines 175-181 were rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

- 185 αἶχμῃ χαλκείῃ ῥῆξ' ὀστέον, ἐγκέφαλος δὲ  
 ἔνδον ἅπας πεπάλακτο· δάμασσε δέ μιν μεμαῶτα.  
 αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα Πύλωνα καὶ Ὅρμενον ἐξενάριξεν.  
 υἱὸν δ' Ἀντιμάχοιο Λεοντεύς, ὅζος Ἄρηος,  
 Ἴππόμαχον βάλε δουρὶ κατὰ ζωστήρα τυχήσας.  
 190 αὖτις δ' ἐκ κολεοῖο ἐρυσσάμενος ξίφος ὄξυν  
 Ἀντιφάτην μὲν πρῶτον, ἐπαΐξας δι' ὀμίλου,  
 πληῆξ' αὐτοσχεδίνην· ὁ δ' ἄρ' ὕπτιος οὐδεὶ ἐρείσθη·<sup>6</sup>  
 αὐτὰρ ἔπειτα Μένωνα καὶ Ἰαμενὸν καὶ Ὀρέστην  
 πάντας ἐπασσυντέρους πέλασε χθονὶ πουλυβοτείρῃ.  
 195 Ὅφρ' οἱ τοὺς ἐνάριζον ἀπ' ἔντεα μαρμαίροντα,  
 τόφρ' οἱ Πουλυδάμαντι καὶ Ἑκτορι κούροι ἔποντο,  
 οἱ πλείστοι καὶ ἄριστοι ἔσαν, μέμασαν δὲ μάλιστα  
 τεῖχος τε ῥήξειν καὶ ἐνιπρήσειν πυρὶ νῆας,  
 οἳ ῥ' ἔτι μερμήριζον ἐφεσταότες παρὰ τάφρῳ.  
 200 ὄρνις γάρ σφιν ἐπῆλθε περησέμεναι μεμαῶσιν,  
 αἰετὸς ὑψιπέτης ἐπ' ἀριστερὰ λαὸν ἐέργων,  
 φοινῆεντα δράκοντα φέρων ὀνύχεσσι πέλωρον  
 ζῶν ἔτ' ἀσπαίροντα· καὶ οὐ πω λήθετο χάρμης·  
 κόψε γὰρ αὐτὸν ἔχοντα κατὰ στήθος παρὰ δειρὴν  
 205 ἰδνωθεὶς ὀπίσω· ὁ δ' ἀπὸ ἔθεν ἦκε χαμᾶζε  
 ἀλγήσας ὀδύνησι, μέσῳ δ' ἐνὶ κάββαλ' ὀμίλῳ,  
 αὐτὸς δὲ κλάγξας πέτετο πνοιῆς ἀνέμοιο.  
 Τρῶες δ' ἐρρίγησαν ὅπως ἴδον αἰόλον ὄφιν  
 κείμενον ἐν μέσσοισι, Διὸς τέρας αἰγιόχοιο.  
 210 δῆ τότε Πουλυδάμας θρασὺν Ἑκτορα εἶπε παραστάς·  
 “Ἑκτορ, αἰὲν μὲν πῶς μοι ἐπιπλήσσεις ἀγορήσιν  
 ἐσθλὰ φραζομένῳ, ἐπεὶ οὐδὲ μὲν οὐδὲ ἔοικε

not stop the spear, but the point of bronze broke clean through the bone, and all his brain was spattered about inside it; so he vanquished him in his fury. And then he slew Pylon and Ormenus. And Leonteus, offshoot of Ares, struck Hippomachus, son of Antimachus, with a cast of his spear, striking him on the belt. And again he drew from its sheath his sharp sword and darting on him through the throng struck Antiphates first from close at hand, so that backward he was hurled on the earth; and then Menon, and Iamenus, and Orestes, all these one after the other he brought down to the bounteous earth.

While they were stripping from these their shining arms, meanwhile the youths who followed with Polydamas and Hector, who were most in number and best and most eager to break through the wall and burn the ships with fire, these still stood by the trench and deliberated. For an omen had come to them as they were eager to cross over, an eagle of lofty flight, skirting the army on the left, and in its talons it carried a blood-red, huge snake, still alive and struggling, nor was it yet forgetful of combat; for it writhed backward, and struck him who held it on the chest beside the neck, and the eagle, stung with pain, cast it from him to the ground, and let it fall in the midst of the throng, and himself with a loud cry sped away down the blasts of the wind. And the Trojans shuddered when they saw the writhing snake lying in their midst, a portent of Zeus who bears the aegis. Then it was that Polydamas came up and spoke to bold Hector: "Hector, you always rebuke me in assemblies, though I give good counsel, since it would indeed not

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<sup>6</sup> οὐδὲι ἐρείσθη: οὐδας ἔρεισεν Aristarchus (cf. 11. 144).

- δῆμον ἔοντα παρέξ ἀγορευόμεν, οὔτ' ἐνὶ βουλῇ  
 οὔτε ποτ' ἐν πολέμῳ, σὸν δὲ κράτος αἰὲν ἀέξειν·  
 215 νῦν αὖτ' ἐξερέω ὥς μοι δοκεῖ εἶναι ἄριστα.  
 μὴ ἴομεν Δαναοῖσι μαχησόμενοι περὶ νηῶν.  
 ὦδε γὰρ ἐκτελέεσθαι οἴομαι, εἰ ἐτεόν γε  
 Τρωσὶν ὅδ' ὄρνις ἦλθε περησέμεναι μεμαῶσιν,  
 αἰετὸς ὑψιπέτης ἐπ' ἀριστερὰ λαὸν ἑέργων,<sup>7</sup>  
 220 φοινήμεντα δράκοντα φέρων ὀνύχεσσι πέλωρον  
 ζών· ἄφαρ δ' ἀφέηκε πάρος φίλα οἰκί' ἰκέσθαι,  
 οὐδ' ἐτέλεσσε φέρων δόμεναι τεκέεσσιν ἐοῖσιν—  
 ὥς ἡμεῖς, εἴ πέρ τε πύλας καὶ τεῖχος Ἀχαιῶν  
 ῥηξόμεθα σθένει μεγάλῳ, εἴξωσι δ' Ἀχαιοί,  
 225 οὐ κόσμῳ παρὰ ναῦφιν ἐλευσόμεθ' αὐτὰ κέλευθα·  
 πολλοὺς γὰρ Τρώων καταλείψομεν, οὓς κεν Ἀχαιοὶ  
 χαλκῷ δηώσωσιν ἀμυνόμενοι περὶ νηῶν.  
 ὦδέ χ' ὑποκρίναιτο θεοπρόπος, ὃς σάφα θυμῷ  
 εἰδείη τεράων καὶ οἱ πειθοίατο λαοί.”  
 Τὸν δ' ἄρ' ὑπόδρα ἰδὼν προσέφη<sup>8</sup> κορυθαίολος  
 230 Ἔκτωρ·  
 “Πουλυδάμα, σὺ μὲν οὐκέτ' ἐμοὶ φίλα ταῦτ' ἀγορεύεις·  
 οἶσθα καὶ ἄλλον μῦθον ἀμείνονα τοῦδε νοῆσαι.  
 εἰ δ' ἐτεὸν δὴ τοῦτον ἀπὸ σπουδῆς ἀγορεύεις,  
 ἐξ ἅρα δὴ τοι ἔπειτα θεοὶ φρένας ὤλεσαν αὐτοί,  
 235 ὃς κέλεαι Ζηνὸς μὲν ἐριγδούποιο λαθέσθαι  
 βουλέων, ἃς τέ μοι αὐτὸς ὑπέσχετο καὶ κατένευσε.  
 τύνη δ' οἰωνοῖσι τανυπτερύγεσσι κελεύεις  
 πείθεσθαι, τῶν οὔ τι μετατρέπομ' οὐδ' ἀλεγίζω,

be right that a man of the people should speak contrary to you, either in council or in war, but he should always increase your power; yet now I will speak what seems to me to be best. Let us not go forward to fight with the Danaans for the ships. For so, I think, will the issue be, since in fact this omen has come on the Trojans as they were eager to cross over, an eagle of lofty flight, skirting the army on the left, carrying in his talons a blood-red, huge snake, still living, yet suddenly let it fall before he reached his dear nest, and did not finish his course, to bring and give it to his little ones; so shall we, though we break the gates and the wall of the Achaeans by our great might and the Achaeans give way, come back over the same road from the ships in disarray; for many of the Trojans will we leave behind whom the Achaeans will slaughter with the bronze in defense of the ships. This is the way a soothsayer would interpret, one who in his mind had clear knowledge of omens, and to whom the people gave ear."

Then with an angry glance spoke to him Hector of the flashing helmet: "Polydamas, these things you are saying are no longer pleasing to me; you know how to devise a better speech than this. But if you are really saying this in earnest, then indeed the gods themselves have surely destroyed your senses, since you are asking me to forget the counsels of loud-thundering Zeus, that he himself promised me and nodded assent. But you tell us to be obedient to birds long of wing, which I do not regard or take thought

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<sup>7</sup> Line 219 is omitted in the best MSS.

<sup>8</sup> τὸν . . . προσέφη: τὸν δ' ἡμείβεται ἔπειτα μέγας Zenodotus.

- εἴτ' ἐπὶ δεξι' ἴωσι πρὸς ἡῶ τ' ἡέλιόν τε,  
 240 εἴτ' ἐπ' ἀριστερὰ τοί γε ποτὶ ζόφον ἡερόεντα.  
 ἡμεῖς δὲ μέγαλοιο Διὸς πειθόμεθα βουλῇ,  
 ὃς πᾶσι θνητοῖσι καὶ ἀθανάτοισιν ἀνάσσει.  
 εἷς οἰωνὸς ἄριστος ἀμύνεσθαι περὶ πάτρης.  
 τίπτε σὺ δείδοικας πόλεμον καὶ δηιοτῆτα;  
 245 εἰ περ γάρ τ' ἄλλοι γε περὶ κτεινόμεθα πάντες  
 νηυσὶν ἐπ' Ἀργείων, σοὶ δ' οὐ δέος ἔστ' ἀπολέσθαι·  
 οὐ γάρ τοι κραδίη μενεδήιος οὐδὲ μαχήμεν.  
 εἰ δὲ σὺ δηιοτῆτος ἀφέξεαι, ἡέ τιν' ἄλλον  
 παρφάμενος ἐπέεσσιν ἀποτρέψεις πολέμοιο,  
 250 αὐτίκ' ἐμῶ ὑπὸ δουρὶ τυπεῖς ἀπὸ θυμὸν ὀλέσσεις.”  
 Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας ἡγήσατο, τοὶ δ' ἅμ' ἔποντο  
 ἡχῇ θεσπεσίῃ· ἐπὶ δὲ Ζεὺς τερπικέραυνος  
 ὦρσεν ἀπ' Ἰδαίων ὀρέων ἀνέμοιο θύελλαν,  
 ἣ ῥ' ἰθὺς νηῶν κονίην φέρειν· αὐτὰρ Ἀχαιῶν  
 255 θέλγε νόον, Τρῳσὶν δὲ καὶ Ἑκτορι κῦδος ὄπαζε.  
 τοῦ περ δὴ τεράεσσι πεποιθότες ἡδὲ βίηφι  
 ῥήγνυσθαι μέγα τεῖχος Ἀχαιῶν πειρήτιζον.  
 κρόσσας μὲν πύργων ἔρνον, καὶ ἔρειπον ἐπάλξεις,  
 στήλας τε προβλήτας ἐμόχλεον, ἃς ἄρ' Ἀχαιοὶ  
 260 πρῶτας ἐν γαίῃ θέσαν ἔμμεναι ἔχματα πύργων.  
 τὰς οἳ γ' αὔερνον, ἔλποντο δὲ τεῖχος Ἀχαιῶν  
 ῥήξειν· οὐδέ νύ πω Δαναοὶ χάζοντο κελεύθου,  
 ἀλλ' οἳ γε ῥινοῖσι βοῶν φράξαντες ἐπάλξεις  
 βάλλον ἀπ' αὐτῶν δηίους ὑπὸ τεῖχος ἰόντας.  
 265 Ἀμφοτέρω δ' Αἴαντε κελευτιόωντ' ἐπὶ πύργων  
 πάντοσε φοιτήτην, μένος ὀτρύνοντες Ἀχαιῶν.

of, whether they go to the right toward the dawn and the sun, or to the left toward the murky darkness. Let us be obedient to the counsel of great Zeus, who is king over all mortals and immortals. One omen is best, to fight for one's country. Why do you fear war and combat? For even if the rest of us are slain one and all at the ships of the Argives, yet there is no fear that you should perish, for your heart is not firm in the fight nor warlike. But, if you hold aloof from combat, or win another over with your words, and turn him from war, at once struck by my spear will you lose your life."

So he spoke and led the way; and they followed after with a wondrous din; and Zeus, who hurls the thunderbolt, roused from the mountains of Ida a blast of wind that carried the dust straight against the ships; and he bewildered the minds of the Achaeans, but granted glory to the Trojans and to Hector. Trusting therefore in his portents and in their might they sought to break the great wall of the Achaeans. The projections on the outworks they dragged down and overthrew the battlements, and pried out the supporting beams that the Achaeans had set first in the earth as buttresses for the wall. These they sought to drag out, and hoped to break the wall of the Achaeans. But not even now did the Danaans give ground from the path, but closed up the battlements with bull's hides, and cast at the foe from them as they came up against the wall.

And the two Aiantes ranged everywhere along the walls urging men on and rousing the might of the Achaeans. One

- ἄλλον μειλιχίους, ἄλλον στερεοῖς ἐπέεσσι  
 νείκεον, ὃν τινα πάγχυ μάχης μεθιέντα ἴδοιεν·  
 “ὦ φίλοι, Ἀργείων ὅς τ’ ἔξοχος ὅς τε μεσθῆεις  
 270 ὅς τε χεριώτερος, ἐπεὶ οὐ πῶ πάντες ὁμοῖοι  
 ἀνέρες ἐν πολέμῳ, νῦν ἔπλετο ἔργον ἅπασιν  
 καὶ δ’ αὐτοὶ τόδε πον γιγνώσκετε. μή τις ὀπίσσω  
 τετράφθω ποτὶ νῆας ὁμοκλητῆρος ἀκούσας,  
 ἀλλὰ πρόσω ἴεσθε καὶ ἀλλήλοισι κέλεσθε,  
 275 αἶ κε Ζεὺς δώησιν Ὀλύμπιος ἀστεροπητῆς  
 νεῖκος ἀπωσαμένους δηίους προτὶ ἄστυ δῖεσθαι.”
- Ὡς τῷ γε προβοῶντε μάχην ὤτρυνον Ἀχαιῶν.  
 τῶν δ’, ὥς τε νιφάδες χιόνος πίπτωσι θαμειαὶ  
 ἥματι χειμερίῳ, ὅτε τ’ ὥρετο μητίετα Ζεὺς  
 280 νιφέμεν, ἀνθρώποισι πιφασκόμενος τὰ ἅ κῆλα·  
 κοιμήσας δ’ ἀνέμους χέει ἔμπεδον, ὄφρα καλύψῃ  
 ὑψηλῶν ὀρέων κορυφὰς καὶ πρόωνας ἄκρους  
 καὶ πεδία λωτοῦντα καὶ ἀνδρῶν πίονα ἔργα·  
 καὶ τ’ ἐφ’ ἀλὸς πολιῆς κέχυται λιμέσιν τε καὶ ἀκταῖς,  
 285 κῦμα δέ μιν προσπλάζον ἐρύκεται· ἄλλα τε πάντα  
 εἴλνται καθύπερθ’, ὅτ’ ἐπιβρίσῃ Διὸς ὄμβρος·  
 ὥς τῶν ἀμφοτέρωσιν λίθοι πωτῶντο θαμειαί,  
 αἱ μὲν ἄρ’ ἐς Τρῶας, αἱ δ’ ἐκ Τρώων ἐς Ἀχαιοὺς,  
 βαλλομένων· τὸ δὲ τεῖχος ὑπὲρ πᾶν δοῦπος ὀρώρει.  
 290 Οὐδ’ ἂν πῶ τότε γε Τρῶες καὶ φαίδιμος Ἴκτωρ  
 τείχεος ἐρρήξαντο πύλας καὶ μακρὸν ὀχῆα,  
 εἰ μὴ ἄρ’ υἱὸν ἐὼν Σαρπηδόνα μητίετα Ζεὺς  
 ὦρσεν ἐπ’ Ἀργείοισι, λείονθ’ ὥς βουσὶν ἔλιξιν.  
 αὐτίκα δ’ ἀσπίδα μὲν πρόσθ’ ἔσχετο πάντοσ’ εἴσῃν,



man with gentle words, another with harsh would they reproach, whomever they saw shrinking utterly from the fight: "Friends, whoever is preeminent among the Argives, whoever holds a middle place, or whoever is lesser, for in no way are all men equal in war, now is there work for all, and this, I imagine, you know yourselves. Let no man turn back to the ships now that he has heard one who urges him on; but press forward, and urge each other on, in the hope that Olympian Zeus, lord of the lightning, may grant us to thrust back the assault and drive our foes to the city."

So they shouted, and roused the battle of the Achaeans. And as flakes of snow fall thick on a winter's day when Zeus, the counselor, rouses himself to snow, showing men these arrows of his, and he lulls the winds and strews the flakes continually until he has covered the peaks of the lofty mountains and the high headlands, and the grassy plains, and the rich lands of men; and over the harbors and shores of the gray sea is the snow strewn, but the wave as it beats against it keeps it off, but all other things are wrapped in it, when the storm of Zeus drives it on; so from both sides their stones flew thick, some on the Trojans, and some from the Trojans on the Achaeans, as they cast at one another; and over the entire wall a din arose.

Yet not even then would the Trojans and glorious Hector have broken the gates of the wall and the long bar, had not Zeus the counselor roused his own son, Sarpedon, against the Argives, like a lion against sleek cattle. At once he held before him his shield that was well balanced on

- 295 καλὴν χαλκείην ἐξήλατον,<sup>9</sup> ἣν ἄρα χαλκεὺς  
 ἤλασεν, ἔντοσθεν δὲ βοείας ῥάψε θαμειὰς  
 χρυσεῖης ῥάβδοισι διηνεκέσιν περὶ κύκλον.  
 τὴν ἄρ' ὃ γε πρόσθε σχόμενος, δύο δοῦρε τινάσσων,  
 βῆ ῥ' ἵμεν ὥς τε λέων ὀρεσίτροφος, ὅς τ' ἐπιδευῆς  
 300 δηρὸν ἔη κρειῶν, κέλεται δέ ἐ θυμὸς ἀγῆνωρ  
 μῆλων πειρήσοντα καὶ ἐς πυκινὸν δόμον ἐλθεῖν·  
 εἴ περ γάρ χ' εὖρῃσι παρ' αὐτόφι βώτορας ἄνδρας  
 σὺν κυσὶ καὶ δούρεσσι φυλάσσοντας περὶ μῆλα,  
 οὐ ῥά τ' ἀπείρητος μέμονε σταθμοῖο δίεσθαι,  
 305 ἀλλ' ὃ γ' ἄρ' ἦ ἥρπαξε μετάλμενος, ἥ καὶ αὐτὸς  
 ἔβλητ' ἐν πρώτοισι θοῆς ἀπὸ χειρὸς ἄκοντι·  
 ὥς ῥα τότε ἀντίθεον Σαρπηδόνα θυμὸς ἀνῆκε  
 τεῖχος ἐπαῖξαι διὰ τε ῥήξασθαι ἐπάλξεις.  
 αὐτίκα δὲ Γλαῦκον προσέφη, παῖδ' Ἰππολόχοιο·  
 310 “Γλαῦκε, τί ἦ δὴ νῶι τετιμήμεσθα μάλιστα  
 ἔδρη τε κρέασίν τε ἰδὲ πλείοις δεπάεσσιν  
 ἐν Λυκίῃ, πάντες δὲ θεοὺς ὥς εἰσορώωσι;  
 καὶ τέμενος νεμόμεσθα μέγα Ξάνθοιο παρ' ὄχθας,  
 καλὸν φυταλιῆς καὶ ἀρούρης πυροφόροιο.  
 315 τῷ νῦν χρὴ Λυκίοισι μέτα πρώτοισιν ἔοντας  
 ἐστάμεν ἡδὲ μάχης καυστείρης ἀντιβολῆσαι,  
 ὄφρα τις ᾧδ' εἴπη Λυκίων πύκα θωρηκτῶν·  
 οὐ μὰν ἀκλεέες Λυκίην κάτα κοιρανέουσιν  
 ἡμέτεροι βασιλῆες, ἔδουσί τε πίονα μῆλα  
 320 οἶνόν τ' ἔξαιτον μελιηδέα· ἀλλ' ἄρα καὶ ἴς  
 ἐσθλή, ἐπεὶ Λυκίοισι μέτα πρώτοισι μάχονται·  
 ᾧ πέπον, εἰ μὲν γὰρ πόλεμον περὶ τόνδε φυγόντε

every side, a fair shield of hammered bronze, which the bronze-smith had hammered out, and he had stitched the many bull's hides inside with stitches of gold that ran all about its circuit. This he held before him, and brandished two spears, and so set out to go like a mountain-nurtured lion that has long lacked meat, and his proud spirit tells him to go even into the well-built fold to make an attempt on the flocks. For even though he finds there the herdsmen with dogs and spears keeping watch around the sheep, yet he is not minded to be driven from the steading before he makes the attempt; but either he leaps among the flock and seizes one, or is himself struck among the foremost by a spear from a quick hand: so did his spirit then urge godlike Sarpedon to rush on the wall, and break down the battlements. At once he spoke to Glaucus, son of Hippolochus: "Glaucus, why is it that we two are most held in honor, with a seat of honor and meats and full cups, in Lycia and all men gaze on us as on gods? And we possess a great estate by the banks of Xanthus, a fair tract of orchard and of wheat-bearing plough-land. Therefore now we must take our stand among the foremost Lycians and confront blazing battle so that many a one of the mail-clad Lycians may say: 'Surely no inglorious men are these who rule in Lycia, our kings, and they eat fat sheep and drink choice wine, honey-sweet: but their might too is noble, since they fight among the foremost Lycians.' Ah friend, if once escaped

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<sup>9</sup> ἐξήλατον Zenodotus: ἐξήλατον Aristarchus.

- αἰεὶ δὴ μέλλοιμεν ἀγήρω τ' ἀθανάτω τε  
 ἔσσεσθ', οὔτε κεν αὐτὸς ἐνὶ πρώτοισι μαχοίμην  
 325 οὔτε κε σὲ στέλλοιμι μάχην ἐς κυδιάνειραν·  
 νῦν δ' ἔμπης γὰρ κῆρες ἐφeskτᾶσιν θανάτοιο  
 μυρίαί, ἃς οὐκ ἔστι φυγεῖν βροτὸν οὐδ' ὑπαλύξαι,  
 ἴομεν, ἥε τῷ εὐχῷ ὀρέζομεν, ἥε τις ἡμῖν."  
 ὣς ἔφατ', οὐδὲ Γλαῦκος ἀπετράπετ' οὐδ' ἀπίθησε·  
 330 τῶ δ' ἰθὺς βήτην Λυκίων μέγα ἔθνος ἄγοντε.  
 τοὺς δὲ ἰδὼν ρίγησ' υἱὸς Πετεῶο Μενεσθεύς·  
 τοῦ γὰρ δὴ πρὸς πύργον ἴσαν κακότητα φέροντες·  
 πάπτηνεν δ' ἀνὰ πύργον Ἀχαιῶν, εἴ τιν' ἴδοιτο  
 ἡγεμόνων, ὃς τίς οἱ ἀρῇν ἐτάροισιν ἀμύναι  
 335 ἐς δ' ἐνόησ' Αἴαντε δύω, πολέμου ἀκορήτω,  
 ἔσταότας, Τεῦκρόν τε νέον κλισίῃθην ἰόντα,  
 ἐγγύθεν· ἀλλ' οὐ πῶς οἱ ἔην βώσαντι γεγωνεῖν·  
 τόσσος γὰρ κτύπος ἦεν, αὐτὴ δ' οὐρανὸν ἴκε,  
 βαλλομένων σακέων τε καὶ ἵπποκόμων τρυφαλειῶν  
 340 καὶ πυλέων· πᾶσαι γὰρ ἐπώχατο, τοὶ δὲ κατ' αὐτὰς  
 ἰστάμενοι πειρῶντο βίῃ ρήξαντες ἐσελθεῖν.  
 αἶψα δ' ἐπ' Αἴαντα προΐει κήρυκα Θοῶτην·  
 "ἔρχεο, διε Θοῶτα, θέων Αἴαντα κάλεσσον,  
 ἀμφοτέρω μὲν μᾶλλον· ὃ γάρ κ' ὄχ' ἄριστον ἀπάντων  
 345 εἴη, ἐπεὶ τάχα τῇδε τετεύχεται αἰπὺς ὄλεθρος.  
 ᾧδε γὰρ ἔβρισαν Λυκίων ἀγοί, οἳ τὸ πάρος περ  
 ζαχρηεῖς τελέθουσι κατὰ κρατερὰς ὑσμίνης.  
 εἰ δέ σφιν καὶ κέῃθι πόνος καὶ νεῖκος ὄρωρεν,  
 ἀλλὰ περ οἷος ἵτω Τελαμώνιος ἄλκιμος Αἴας,

from this battle we were for ever to be ageless and immortal, neither should I myself fight among the foremost, nor should I send you into battle where men win glory; but now—for in any case fates of death threaten us, fates past counting, which no mortal may escape or avoid—now let us go forward, whether we shall give glory to another, or another to us.”

So he spoke, and Glaucus did not turn aside, nor did he disobey him, but the two of them went straight forward leading the great throng of the Lycians. At sight of them, Menestheus, son of Peteos, shuddered, for it was to his part of the wall that they came, bringing ruin; and he looked in fear along the wall of the Achaeans, in the hope that he might see one of the leaders, who would ward off disaster from his comrades; and he caught sight of the two Aiantes, insatiate in war, standing there, and Teucer, who had just come from his hut, beside them; but it was in no way possible for him to shout so as to be heard by them, so great a din was there, and the noise went up to heaven of struck shields and helmets with crests of horsehair and of the gates, for all had been closed, and before them stood the foe, and sought to break them by force and enter in. Quickly then to Aias he sent the herald Thoötes: “Go, noble Thoötes, run and call Aias, or rather both of them, since that would be far best of all, since here will sheer destruction soon be worked. Hard on us here press the leaders of the Lycians, who have long been formidable in mighty combats. But if with them over there, too, the toil of war and strife have arisen, yet at least let valiant Aias,

- 350 καὶ οἱ Τεῦκρος ἅμα σπέσθω τόξων ἐν εἰδώς.”<sup>10</sup>  
 Ὡς ἔφατ’, οὐδ’ ἄρα οἱ κῆρυξ ἀπίθησεν ἀκούσας,  
 βῆ δὲ θέειν παρὰ τείχος Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων,  
 στῆ δὲ παρ’ Αἰάντεσσι κιών, εἶθαρ δὲ προσηύδα·  
 “Αἴαντ’, Ἀργείων ἡγήτορε χαλκοχιτώνων,  
 355 ἡνώγει Πετεῶο διοτρεφέος φίλος υἱὸς  
 κείσ’ ἵμεν, ὅφρα πόνοιο μίνυνθά περ ἀντιάσητον,  
 ἀμφοτέρω μὲν μᾶλλον· ὁ γάρ κ’ ὅχ’ ἄριστον ἀπάντων  
 εἴη, ἐπεὶ τάχα κείθι τετεύξεται αἰπὺς ὄλεθρος·  
 κείσε<sup>11</sup> γὰρ ἔβρισαν Λυκίων ἀγοί, οἳ τὸ πάρος περ  
 360 ζαχρηεῖς τελέθουσι κατὰ κρατερὰς ὕσμινας.  
 εἰ δὲ καὶ ἐνθάδε περ πόλεμος καὶ νείκος ὄρωρεν,  
 ἀλλὰ περ οἶος ἵτω Τελαμώνιος ἄλκιμος Αἴας,  
 καὶ οἱ Τεῦκρος ἅμα σπέσθω τόξων ἐν εἰδώς.”<sup>12</sup>  
 Ὡς ἔφατ’, οὐδ’ ἀπίθησε μέγας Τελαμώνιος Αἴας.  
 365 αὐτίκ’ Ὀϊλιάδην ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδα·  
 “Αἴαν, σφῶι μὲν αὖθι, σὺ καὶ κρατερὸς Λυκομήδης,  
 ἔσταότες Δαναοὺς ὀτρύνετον ἱφί μάχεσθαι·  
 αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ κείσ’ εἶμι καὶ ἀντιόω πολέμοιο·  
 αἶψα δ’ ἐλεύσομαι αὖτις, ἐπὴν ἐν τοῖς ἐπαμύνω.”  
 370 Ὡς ἄρα φωνήσας ἀπέβη Τελαμώνιος Αἴας,  
 καὶ οἱ Τεῦκρος ἅμ’ ἦε κασίγνητος καὶ ὄπατρος.<sup>13</sup>  
 τοῖς δ’ ἅμα Πανδίων Τεύκρου φέρε καμπύλα τόξα.  
 εὖτε Μενεσθῆος μεγαθύμου πύργον ἵκοντο  
 τείχεος ἐντὸς ἰόντες—ἐπειγομένοισι δ’ ἵκοντο—

<sup>10</sup> Line 350 was rejected by Aristophanes and Aristarchus.

<sup>11</sup> κείσε Zenodotus; ὦδε MSS.

son of Telamon, come alone, and let Teucer, who is well skilled with the bow, follow with him."

So he spoke, and the herald did not fail to obey as he heard, but went running along the wall of the bronze-clad Achaeans, and he came and stood by the Aiantes, and immediately said: "Aiantes, leaders of the bronze-shirted Achaeans, the son of Peteos, nurtured by Zeus, asks you to go there, so that, if only for a short time, you may confront the toil of war—or rather both of you, since that would be far best of all, since there will sheer destruction soon be worked. Hard on them there press the leaders of the Lycians, who have long been formidable in mighty combats. But if with the men over here, too, war and strife have arisen, yet at least let valiant Aias, son of Telamon, go alone, and let Teucer, who is well skilled with the bow, follow with him."

So he spoke, and great Telamonian Aias failed not to obey. At once he spoke winged words to the son of Oïleus: "Aias, you two, you and mighty Lycomedes, stand fast here and urge on the Danaans to fight hard, but I will go there and face the war, and quickly I will come again when I have well come to their rescue."

So saying Telamonian Aias went away, and with him went Teucer, his own brother, son of the same father, and with them Pandion carried the curved bow of Teucer. When they reached the post of great-hearted Menestheus as they went along inside the wall—and to men hard

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<sup>12</sup> Line 363 was rejected by Aristarchus.

<sup>13</sup> Lines 371 f. were rejected by Aristarchus.

- 375 οἱ δ' ἐπ' ἐπάλξεις βαῖνον ἐρεμνῇ λαίλαπι ἴσοι  
 ἴφθιμοι Λυκίων ἡγήτορες ἦδ' ἐμέδοντες·  
 σὺν δ' ἐβάλοντο μάχεσθαι ἐναντίον, ὦρτο δ' αὐτῇ.  
 Αἴας δὲ πρῶτος Τελαμώνιος ἄνδρα κατέκτα,  
 Σαρπηδόντος ἐταῖρον, Ἐπικλῆα μεγάθυμον,  
 380 μαρμάρῳ ὀκρίονεντι βαλὼν, ὃ ῥα τείχεος ἐντὸς  
 κείτο μέγας παρ' ἐπαλξιν ὑπέρτατος. οὐδέ κέ μιν ῥέα  
 χείρεσσ' ἀμφοτέρῃς ἔχοι ἀνὴρ οὐδὲ μάλ' ἡβῶν,  
 οἷοι νῦν βροτοὶ εἰσ'· ὃ δ' ἄρ' ὑπόθεν ἔμβाल' αἰείρας,  
 θλάσσε δὲ τετράφαλον κυνέην, σὺν δ' ὅστέ' ἄραξε  
 385 πάντ' ἄμυδις κεφαλῆς· ὃ δ' ἄρ' ἀρνευτῆρι ἐοικῶς  
 κάππεσ' ἀφ' ὑψηλοῦ πύργου, λίπε δ' ὅστέα θυμός.  
 Τεῦκρος δὲ Γλαῦκον, κρατερὸν παῖδ' Ἴππολόχοιο,  
 ἰῶ ἐπεσσύμενον βάλε τείχεος ὑψηλοῖο,  
 ἧ ῥ' ἴδε γυμνωθέντα βραχίονα, παῦσε δὲ χάρμης·  
 390 ἄψ δ' ἀπὸ τείχεος ἄλτο λαθὼν, ἵνα μή τις Ἀχαιῶν  
 βλήμενον ἀθρήσειε καὶ εὐχετόωτ' ἐπέεσσι.  
 Σαρπηδόντι δ' ἄχος γένετο Γλαύκου ἀπιόντος,  
 αὐτίκ' ἐπεὶ τ' ἐνόησεν· ὅμως δ' οὐ λήθετο χάρμης,  
 ἀλλ' ὃ γε Θεστορίδην Ἀλκμάονα δουρὶ τυχήσας  
 395 νύξ', ἐκ δ' ἔσπασεν ἔγχος· ὃ δ' ἐσπόμενος πέσε δουρὶ  
 πρηνῆς, ἀμφὶ δέ οἱ βράχε τεύχεα ποικίλα χαλκῷ.  
 Σαρπηδὼν δ' ἄρ' ἐπαλξιν ἐλὼν χερσὶ στιβαρῆσιν  
 ἔλχ', ἧ δ' ἔσπετο πᾶσα διαμπερές, αὐτὰρ ὑπερθε  
 τείχος ἐγυμνώθη, πολέεσσι δὲ θῆκε κέλευθον.  
 400 Τὸν δ' Αἴας καὶ Τεῦκρος ὁμαρτήσανθ' ὁ μὲν ἰῶ  
 βεβλήκει τελαμῶνα περὶ στήθεσσι φαεινὸν  
 ἀσπίδος ἀμφιβρότης· ἀλλὰ Ζεὺς κῆρας ἄμυνε



pressed they came—the foe were mounting on to the battlements like a black tempest, the mighty leaders and rulers of the Lycians; and they clashed together in fight, and the war cry arose.

Then Aias, son of Telamon, was first to slay his man, great-hearted Epicles, comrade of Sarpedon; he struck him with a huge jagged rock that lay the topmost of all inside the wall by the battlements. Not easily with both hands could a man hold it, such as mortals now are, not even if he were young and strong, but Aias lifted it high up and hurled it, and he shattered the four-ridged helmet, and crushed together all the bones of his head; and he fell like a diver from the high wall, and his spirit left his bones. And Teucer struck Glaucus, the mighty son of Hippolochus, as he rushed at them, with an arrow from the high wall, where he saw his arm uncovered; and he made him cease from the fight. Back from the wall he leapt stealthily, so that no man of the Achaeans might notice that he had been struck, and boast over him loudly. But over Sarpedon came grief at Glaucus' leaving as soon as he knew of it, yet he forgot not the fight, but struck with a thrust of his spear Alcmaon, son of Thestor, with sure aim, and again drew out the spear. And Alcmaon, following the spear, fell headlong, and about him rang his armor, inlaid with bronze. But Sarpedon with stout hands caught hold of the battlement and pulled, and the whole length of it gave way, and the wall above was laid bare, and he made a path for many.

But against him came Aias and Teucer at the same time: Teucer struck him with an arrow on the gleaming baldric of his sheltering shield about his chest, but Zeus warded

παιδὸς ἐοῦ, μὴ νηυσὶν ἔπι πρυμνῇσι δαμείῃ·  
 Αἴας δ' ἀσπίδα νύξεν ἐπάλμενος, οὐδὲ διαπρὸ  
 405 ἤλυθεν ἐγχείῃ, στυφέλιξε δέ μιν μεμαῶτα.  
 χώρησεν δ' ἄρα τυτθὸν ἐπάλξιος· οὐδ' ὃ γε πάμπαν  
 χάζετ' ἐπεὶ οἱ θυμὸς ἐέλπετο<sup>14</sup> κῦδος ἀρέσθαι.  
 κέκλετο δ' ἀντιθέοισιν ἐλιξάμενος Λυκίοισιν·  
 “ὦ Λύκιοι, τί τ' ἄρ' ὦδε μεθίετε θούριδος ἀλκῆς;  
 410 ἀργαλέον δέ μοί ἐστι καὶ ἰφθίμῳ περ ἐόντι  
 μούνῳ ῥήξαμένῳ θέσθαι παρὰ νηυσὶ κέλευθον·  
 ἀλλ' ἐφομαρτεῖτε· πλεόνων δέ τε ἔργον ἄμεινον.”

ὧς ἔφαθ', οἱ δὲ ἄνακτος ὑποδδείσαντες ὁμοκλήν  
 μᾶλλον ἐπέβρισαν βουλευφόρον ἀμφὶ ἄνακτα,  
 415 Ἀργεῖοι δ' ἐτέρωθεν ἐκαρτύνναντο φάλαγγας  
 τείχεος ἔντοσθεν, μέγα δέ σφισι φαίνεται ἔργον.  
 οὔτε γὰρ ἰφθιμοὶ Λύκιοι Δαναῶν ἐδύνναντο  
 τείχος ῥηξάμενοι θέσθαι παρὰ νηυσὶ κέλευθον,  
 οὔτε ποτ' αἰχμηταὶ Δαναοὶ Λυκίους ἐδύνναντο  
 420 τείχεος ἂψ ὥσασθαι, ἐπεὶ τὰ πρῶτα πέλασθεν.  
 ἀλλ' ὥς τ' ἀμφ' οὔροισι δὺ' ἀνέρε δηριάασθον,  
 μέτρ' ἐν χερσὶν ἔχοντες, ἐπιξύνῳ ἐν ἀρούρῃ,  
 ὧ τ' ὀλίγῳ ἐνὶ χώρῳ ἐρίζητον περὶ ἴσης,  
 ὧς ἄρα τοὺς διέεργον ἐπάλξιες· οἱ δ' ὑπὲρ αὐτέων  
 425 δῆρουν ἀλλήλων ἀμφὶ στήθεσσι βοείας  
 ἀσπίδας εὐκύκλους λαισῆιά τε πτερόεντα.  
 πολλοὶ δ' οὐτάζοντο κατὰ χροά νηλεί χαλκῷ,  
 ἡμὲν ὅτεω στρεφθέντι μετάφρενα γυμνωθείη  
 μαρναμένων, πολλοὶ δὲ διαμπερὲς ἀσπίδος αὐτῆς.  
 430 πάντῃ δὴ πύργοι καὶ ἐπάλξεις αἵματι φωτῶν

off the fates from his son so that he should not be vanquished at the ships' sterns; and Aias leapt on him and thrust against his shield, but the spear-point did not pass through, but he made him reel in his onset. So he gave ground a little from the battlement, yet withdrew not entirely, for his heart hoped to win glory. And he wheeled about, and called aloud to the godlike Lycians: "Lycians, why are you so slack in furious valor? Hard is it for me, even though I am mighty, alone to breach the wall and make a path to the ships. But come along with me; the more men the better work."

So he spoke; and they, seized with fear of the rebuke of their lord, pressed on the more around about their counselor and king, and the Argives on the other side made strong their battalions inside the wall; and there appeared to them a great work. For neither could the mighty Lycians break the wall of the Danaans and make a path to the ships, nor ever could the Danaan spearmen thrust back the Lycians from the wall, when once they had drawn near it. But as two men with measuring rods in hand contend about the landmark stones in a common field, and in a narrow space contend each for his equal share, so did the battlements hold these foes apart, and over them they struck the bull's hide shields about one another's chests, the round shields and fluttering bucklers. And many were wounded in the flesh by thrusts of the pitiless bronze, both whenever anyone turned and his back was left bare as they fought, and many clean through the shield itself. Everywhere the walls and battlements were spattered with

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<sup>14</sup> ἐέλππετο Aristarchus: ἐέλδετο.

- ἐρράδατ' ἀμφοτέρωθεν ἀπὸ Τρώων καὶ Ἀχαιῶν·  
 ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὥς ἐδύναντο φόβον ποιῆσαι Ἀχαιῶν,  
 ἀλλ' ἔχον ὥς τε τάλαντα γυνὴ χερνῆτις ἀληθής,  
 ἥ τε σταθμὸν ἔχουσα καὶ εἴριον ἀμφὶς ἀνέλκει  
 435 ἰσάζουσ', ἵνα παισὶν ἀεικέα μισθὸν ἄρῃται·  
 ὥς μὲν τῶν ἐπὶ ἴσα μάχῃ τέτατο πτόλεμός τε,  
 πρὶν γ' ὅτε δὴ Ζεὺς κῦδος ὑπέρτερον Ἑκτορι δῶκε  
 Πριαμίδῃ, ὃς πρῶτος ἐσήλατο τεῖχος Ἀχαιῶν.  
 ἦνσεν δὲ διαπρύσιον Τρώεσσι γεγωνώς·  
 440 "ὄρυνσθ', ἱππόδαμοι Τρώες, ῥήγνυσθε δὲ τεῖχος  
 Ἀργείων καὶ νηυσὶν ἐνίετε θεσπιδαῆς πῦρ."  
 Ὡς φάτ' ἐποτρύνων, οἱ δ' οὐασι πάντες ἄκουον,  
 ἵθυσαν δ' ἐπὶ τεῖχος ἀολλέες· οἱ μὲν ἔπειτα  
 κροσσάων ἐπέβαινον ἀκαχμένα δούρατ' ἔχοντες,<sup>15</sup>  
 445 Ἑκτωρ δ' ἀρπάξας λᾶαν φέρειν, ὃς ῥα πυλάων  
 ἐστήκει πρόσθε, πρυμνὸς παχὺς, αὐτὰρ ὑπερθεῖν  
 ὄξυνς ἔην· τὸν δ' οὐ κε δὺ' ἀνέρε δήμου ἀρίστῳ  
 ῥηιδίως ἐπ' ἄμαξαν ἀπ' οὔδεος ὀχλίσσειαν,  
 οἷοι νῦν βροτοὶ εἰς· ὁ δέ μιν ῥέα πάλλε καὶ οἶος·  
 450 τὸν οἱ ἐλαφρὸν ἔθηκε Κρόνου πάϊς ἀγκυλομήτεω.<sup>16</sup>  
 ὥς δ' ὅτε ποιμὴν ρεῖα φέρει πόκον ἄρσενος οἶδς  
 χειρὶ λαβὼν ἐτέρῃ, ὀλίγον τέ μιν ἄχθος ἐπείγει,  
 ὥς Ἑκτωρ ἰθὺς σανίδων φέρε λᾶαν ἀείρας,  
 αἶ ῥα πύλας εἵρυντο πύκα στιβαρῶς ἀραρυίας,  
 455 δικλίδας ὑψηλάς· δοιοὶ δ' ἐντοσθεν ὀχήης

<sup>15</sup> ἀκαχμένα . . . ἔχοντες: ἐπεὶ θεοῦ ἔκλυον αὐδὴν Zenodotus.

blood of men from both sides, from Trojans and Achaeans alike. But even so they could not put the Achaeans to rout, but both sides held their ground, as a careful woman, who labors with her hands at spinning, holds the balance and raises the weight and the wool in either scale, making them equal, so that she may win a meager wage for her children; so evenly was strained their war and battle until Zeus granted the greater glory to Hector, Priam's son, who was first to leap inside the wall of the Achaeans. And he uttered a piercing shout, calling aloud to the Trojans: "Rise up, horse-taming Trojans, break the wall of the Argives, and fling among the ships wondrous-blazing fire."

So he spoke, urging them on, and they all gave ear to him, and rushed straight on the wall in one throng, and with sharp spears in their hands mounted on the wall projections. And Hector snatched up and carried a stone that lay in front of the gate, thick at the base, but sharp at the top; not easily would two men, the best of the people, have heaved it up from the ground and on to a wagon—men such as mortals now are—yet easily did he wield it even by himself; the son of crooked-counseling Cronos made it light for him. And as when a shepherd easily carries the fleece of a ram, taking it in one hand, and but little does its weight burden him, so Hector lifted up the stone and carried it straight against the doors that guarded the close and strongly fitted gates—double gates they were, and high, and two cross bars held them on the inside, and a single

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<sup>16</sup> Line 450 was rejected by Zenodotus, Aristophanes, and Aristarchus.

εἶχον ἐπημοιβοί, μία δὲ κληῖς ἐπαρήρει.  
 στῆ δὲ μάλ' ἐγγὺς ἰών, καὶ ἐρεισάμενος βάλε μέσσας,  
 εὖ διαβάς, ἵνα μή οἱ ἀφαιρότερον βέλος εἴη,  
 ῥῆξέ δ' ἀπ' ἀμφοτέρους θαιρούς· πέσε δὲ λίθος εἴσω  
 460 βριθοσύνη, μέγα δ' ἀμφὶ πύλαι μύκον, οὐδ' ἄρ' ὀχῆες  
 ἐσχεθέτην, σανίδες δὲ διέτμαγεν ἄλλυδις ἄλλη  
 λαὸς ὑπὸ ῥιπῆς· ὁ δ' ἄρ' ἔσθορε φαίδιμος Ἴκτωρ  
 νυκτὶ θοῇ ἀτάλαντος ὑπώπια· λάμπε δὲ χαλκῷ  
 σμερδαλέῳ, τὸν ἔεστο περὶ χροῖ, δοιὰ δὲ χερσὶ  
 465 δοῦρ' ἔχεν. οὐ κέν τις μιν ἐρύκακεν ἀντιβολήσας  
 νόσφι θεῶν, ὅτ' ἐσᾶλτο πύλας· πυρὶ δ' ὅσσε δεδήει.  
 κέκλετο δὲ Τρώεσσιν ἐλιξάμενος καθ' ὄμιλον  
 τεῖχος ὑπερβαίνειν· τοὶ δ' ὀιρύνοντι πίθοντο.  
 αὐτίκα δ' οἱ μὲν τεῖχος ὑπέρβασαν, οἱ δὲ κατ' αὐτὰς  
 470 ποιητὰς ἐσέχυντο πύλας· Δαναοὶ δὲ φόβηθεν  
 νῆας ἀνὰ γλαφυράς, ὄμαδος δ' ἀλίαςτος ἐτύχθη.

## BOOK 12

bolt fastened them. He came and stood hard by, and bracing himself struck them squarely in the middle, setting his feet well apart so that his cast might not lack strength; and he broke off both the hinges, and the stone fell inside by its own weight, and loudly groaned the gates on either side, nor did the bars hold fast, but the doors were dashed apart this way and that by the stone's force. And glorious Hector leapt inside, his face like sudden night; and he shone in the terrible bronze with which his body was clothed, and in his hands he held two spears. None that met him could have held him back, none save the gods, when once he leapt inside the gates; and his eyes blazed with fire. And he wheeled about in the throng, and called aloud to the Trojans to climb over the wall; and they obeyed his urging. At once some climbed over the wall, and others poured in by the strong-built gates, and the Danaans were driven in rout among the hollow ships, and an unceasing din arose.